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CONTENTS

8 June 1992

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NORTHEAST ASIA

Japan

Kanemaru Returns After Meeting Quayle, Bush *[KYODO]* 1
  Remarks Said Personal Opinion *[KYODO]* 1
Panel Says U.S. Uses Unfair Trade Practices *[KYODO]* 1
Croatia 'Shares Blame' for Bosnia Bloodshed *[KYODO]* 1
South Korea's Deputy Prime Minister Visits 2
  Meets With Miyazawa 8 Jun *[KYODO]* 2
  Meets With Finance Minister Hata *[KYODO]* 2
South African President Views Trade, Apartheid *[Tokyo TV]* 2
Tokyo 'Concerned' About Cambodia Peace Plan *[KYODO]* 3
Reportage on Peacekeeping Bill Issue Continues 4
  Upper House Plenum Begins Vote *[KYODO]* 4
  All-Night Session Stalls on Bill *[KYODO]* 4
  Upper House Plenum Reopens 6 Jun *[KYODO]* 5
  Early Passage of Bill Predicted *[KYODO]* 6
  Upper House Resumes Debate 7 Jun *[KYODO]* 6
  No-Confidence Motion Rejected *[KYODO]* 7
  5 No-Confidence Motions Withdrawn *[KYODO]* 7
  Delaying Tactics Continued *[KYODO]* 8
  PKO Vote Delayed Until 9 Jun *[KYODO]* 9
  SDP To Discontinue 'Ox-Walk' *[KYODO]* 10
  Hiraiwa Criticizes Stalling *[KYODO]* 11
Radicals Claim Responsibility for Explosions *[KYODO]* 11
Doctors Undecided on Need for Watanabe Surgery *[KYODO]* 11
Miyazawa To Retain Watanabe as Foreign Minister *[KYODO]* 12
Ruling Party's Kanemaru Urges Cabinet Reshuffle *[KYODO]* 12
MOF Official Views High Trade Surplus Figures *[KYODO]* 13
Kanemaru Pledges Resolve on 3.5% Economic Growth *[KYODO]* 13
Miyazawa 'Still' Plans To Attend Earth Summit *[KYODO]* 13
Tokyo Decides To Leave Wheat Price Unchanged *[Tokyo TV]* 14
Safety of Overseas Tourists' Council Established *[KYODO]* 14

North Korea

ROK Tunnel Infiltration Claim Denounced *[Pyongyang Radio]* 14
  'Self-Made Trap' Ridiculed *[Pyongyang Radio]* 14
Allied Security Talks Called 'Criminal' *[KCNA]* 15
Commentaries Berate ROK Over Nuclear Issue 15
  'Nuclear Commotions' Denounced *[Pyongyang Radio]* 15
  NODONG SINMUN Commentary *[Pyongyang Radio]* 16
North-South Red Cross Meeting Detailed *[Pyongyang Radio]* 18
Japan's SDF Bill Called 'Dangerous' *[KCNA]* 19
Kim Il-song, Chong-il Receive Yang Baibing *[Pyongyang Radio]* 19
North Pyongan Province Develops Textile Industry *[KCNA]* 20

South Korea

Russian Scud Import Allegations Denied *[TONG-A ILBO 5 Jun]* 20
Yi Sang-ok on Nuclear Issue, Japanese Military *[YONHAP]* 20

  - Mentions Downgrading Ties With Taiwan *[YONHAP]* 21
- Choe Kak-kyu, Miyazawa Discuss Economic Issues *[YONHAP]* 21
- Government Silent on Japan's PKO Bill *[THE KOREA HERALD 7 Jun]* 22
- Japan's 'Resurgence of Militarism' Examined *[KYONGHYANG SINMUN 6 Jun]* 22
- Trade Deficit With Japan Decreasing *[THE KOREA TIMES 7 Jun]* 23
- Domestic Makers Hurt by Japanese 'Dumping' *[THE KOREA TIMES 6 Jun]* 23
- PRC-Flagged Ship Arrives at Inchon Port *[YONHAP]* 24
- Government May Repatriate Imprisoned Yi In-mo *[YONHAP]* 24
- Editorial Berates DPRK Delays on Nuclear Issue *[HANGUK ILBO 6 Jun]* 24
- Investments in DPRK Light Industry Encouraged *[YONHAP]* 25
- Chong Chu-yong Discusses Views on Economic Policy *[THE KOREA HERALD 7 Jun]* 26
  - Favors Repeal of National Security Law *[YONHAP]* 27
  - Investigation of Remarks Under Way *[YONHAP]* 27
- Yi Chong-chan Indicates Readiness To Leave DLP *[YONHAP]* 27
- Daewoo Chief Discusses Investment in Russia *[MAEIL KYONGJAE SINMUN 6 Jun]* 28
- Taiwan Seeking Firms for Construction Projects *[THE KOREA TIMES 6 Jun]* 28
- No Tae-u Appointments to Key Posts Criticized *[THE KOREA TIMES 7 Jun]* 29
- Prime Minister Addresses Memorial Service *[Seoul Radio]* 29

SOUTHEAST ASIA

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

- New Rules for Singapore Military Flights Set *[NEW STRAITS TIMES 3 Jun]* 31

Singapore

- South African President Arrives for Visit 31
  - Comments on Talks, Aims of Visit *[Johannesburg SAPA]* 31
  - 'Impressed' With Country's Role *[Johannesburg Radio]* 32

Cambodia

- UN Soldiers Clash With Khmer Rouge; 21 Killed *[Bangkok TV]* 32
- SNC Meeting Discusses Paris Agreement 5 June 32
  - Sihanouk, Akashi, Others Attend *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 32
  - Khieu Samphan Gives Address *[Radio VGNUFC]* 32
  - Press Communique Issued *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 35
- Khieu Samphan Explains Stances to Sihanouk *[Radio VGNUFC]* 35
- Khieu Samphan Sends Letter to Butrus-Ghali *[Radio VGNUFC]* 37
- Hor Namhong Holds 5 June News Conference *[Phnom Penh Radio]* 37
- Khmer Rouge Statement on Accord Implementation *[Radio VGNUFC]* 39
- Khmer Rouge Request for Referendum Reported *[SPK]* 40

Laos

- Talks Held With U.S. Team on Search for MIA's *[Vientiane Radio]* 41
- Memorandum on Disaster Relief Aid Signed *[KPL]* 41
- Nationwide Public Health Meeting Concludes *[Vientiane Radio]* 41

Philippines

- Manglapus: U.S. Blocking Diplomatic Initiatives *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 7 Jun]* 42
- Ramos Studies Political Reforms *[Quezon City Radio]* 43
- Ramos Welcomes Eastern Bloc Economic Initiatives *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 8 Jun]* 43
- Ramos To Pursue Probe on Marcos Yamashita Gold *[Manila Radio]* 43
- Chief Justice Legally Unable To Act as President *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 7 Jun]* 44
- Ramos Maintains Lead in Congress Poll Count *[Manila Radio]* 44
  - Santiago's Camp Wants Count Suspended *[Manila Radio]* 44

Man Arrested for Alleged Plot To Kill Aquino *[Manila Radio]* 44
Ramos Tightens Security After Plot Report *[Manila Radio]* 45
 Camp Offers Dialogue With Plotters *[Manila Radio]* 45
 Rebel Soldiers Deny Part in Attempt *[PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY 8 Jun]* 45
Aquino Orders Construction of More Power Plants *[Quezon City Radio]* 46
 Orders Privatization of Plants *[Quezon City Radio]* 46
Military Faces Revamp as Top Officials Retire *[THE CHRONICLE 8 Jun]* 46
Communists Rule Out Peace Talks With Ramos *[PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER 7 Jun]* 47

Thailand

Peace Process To Be Discussed With Khmer Rouge *[AFP]* 48
Opposition Names Candidate for Premiership *[BANGKOK POST 6 Jun]* 48
 Chances Called 'Slim' *[BANGKOK POST 8 Jun]* 48
Chat Thai Not To Support Chuan as Prime Minister *[THE NATION 7 Jun]* 49
Chuan Called Acceptable as Premier, Not Chawalit *[BANGKOK POST 8 Jun]* 50
Chuan Seen as Answer to Deadlock *[BANGKOK POST 7 Jun]* 51
Government Coalition Affirms Support for Chombun *[Bangkok Radio]* 52
 Firm Coalition Support Cited *[Bangkok TV]* 52
Police: All Detained During Unrest Released *[BANGKOK POST 7 Jun]* 53
Cabinet Resolution To Shoot Protestors 'False' *[Bangkok Radio]* 53
Activists Urge UN Search for Missing Protestors *[AFP]* 54

Vietnam

Claim of SRV Troops in Cambodia Rejected *[VNA]* 54
Country Recognized as Member of Ministerial Group *[VNA]* 54
Japanese Firm Seeks Transport Investment Projects *[VNA]* 54
Apprentices To Serve in Japanese Enterprises *[Hanoi International]* 55
Figures for 1992 Trade With UK Reported *[VNA]* 55
UK Gives $1.8 Million for Hong Kong Returnees *[Hanoi International]* 55
Nguyen Manh Cam Makes Official Visit to UK *[VNA]* 55
Foreign Minister Visits Belgium 1-3 Jun *[VNA]* 55
French Bank To Open in Ho Chi Minh City *[VNA]* 56
Joint Venture With Russia on Gold Prospecting *[VNA]* 56
Byelarus Deputy Premier Reaffirms Cooperation *[VNA]* 56
Australia Becomes 4th-Largest Foreign Investor *[VNA]* 56
Talks Open With Malaysia on Oil Exploration *[VNA]* 57
Vinacontrol Continues Expanding, Improving *[VNA]* 57
UNDP Pledges Environment Protection Aid for Hanoi *[VNA]* 57
 Provides for Economic Development *[VNA]* 58
Do Muoi Speaks at Kon Tum Party Congress *[Hanoi TV]* 58

AUSTRALASIA

Australia

Trade Sanctions on Serbia, Montenegro Announced *[Melbourne International]* 61

Fiji

New Foreign Minister To Improve Regional Ties *[Melbourne International]* 61
Rabuka Vows To Abide by Inter-Party Agreement *[Melbourne International]* 61

New Zealand

Defense Minister Wants ANZUS Treaty Restored *[AFP]* 61

Japan

Kanemaru Returns After Meeting Quayle, Bush

OW0706071292 Tokyo KYODO in English 0653 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 7 KYODO—Shin Kanemaru, vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), returned to Japan on Sunday from a six-day visit to the United States.

Kanemaru met Thursday with President George Bush, who pledged to press Russian President Boris Yeltsin to return disputed Russian-held islands off Hokkaido to Japan when he meets with Yeltsin later this month in Washington.

He also met Vice President Dan Quayle and other U.S. leaders during the visit.

Kanemaru, who arrived by special Japan Airlines flight, was accompanied by former LDP Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa.

Remarks Said Personal Opinion

OW0806113492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1109 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (KYODO)—A top official of the Ministry of Finance (MOF) Monday repeated the ministry's cautious stance toward a supplementary budget to provide an additional thrust to the economy.

The official, asked about recent remarks by politician Shin Kanemaru that suggested Japan was committed to expanding domestic demand, said the comments were Kanemaru's "personal view."

Kanemaru, the powerful vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, recently told U.S. President George Bush that Japan would try to boost domestic demand to contribute to world economic growth and to reduce Japan's mounting trade surplus.

The official, who spoke with reporters on condition that he not be identified, said that if additional fiscal spending ignited inflation, it would play havoc with the economy.

He [said] there are already some bright signs in the economy like the housing recovery and swift inventory adjustments.

"Now is still the time we should just watch and assess the effects of the measures we have already taken," he said.

Panel Says U.S. Uses Unfair Trade Practices

OW0806035192 Tokyo KYODO in English 0344 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO—The United States uses more unfair trading practices against Japan than any other trade partner, a government advisory panel said Monday.

The report of a subcommittee under the Industrial Structure Council, an advisory panel to the trade minister, says the U.S. employs unfair trade policies and measures in nine of 10 areas, the most of any of Japan's 10 major trading partners.

The report accuses the U.S. of unfairly using import restrictions, government procurement, unilateral action against other nations, application of domestic antitrust policy to foreign countries, antidumping measures, origin rules, tariffs, protection of intellectual property, and regulations on services.

The committee's first annual report, detailing unfair trade policies and measures based on internationally agreed rules, says the only one of the 10 practices the U.S. does not use is regulation on foreign investment.

The report says the U.S. sometimes abuses or misuses international rules, arbitrarily enforcing antidumping measures and rules of origin.

It also says the U.S. is too willing to take such unilateral measures as the now-expired "Super 301" trade retaliation law and what it calls excessive application of domestic antitrust law to foreign companies.

The report says the European Community and South Korea each use six of the 10 unfair trading practices.

Japan will give its trading partners copies of the report, aimed at identifying problems and encouraging mutual efforts to solve them, as "a basis for discussion," said an official of the Ministry of International Trade and Industry.

Croatia 'Shares Blame' for Bosnia Bloodshed

OW0506115992 Tokyo KYODO in English 1153 GMT 05 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 5 KYODO—The former Yugoslav republic of Croatia shares blame with Serbia for continuing bloodshed in Bosnia-Hercegovina, the Japanese Foreign Ministry said Friday.

"We are aware the Croatians are also partly responsible for the situation in Bosnia-Hercegovina," said ministry spokesman Masamichi Hanabusa.

Responding to a question, Hanabusa told reporters Japan is "conveying to the Croatian authorities through diplomatic channels that they have to cooperate in Bosnia-Hercegovina by not making a peaceful solution more difficult."

But a ministry source said Japan is not considering sanctions against Croatia, "as we still consider that the main responsibility lies with the Serbs."

United Nations Secretary General Butrus Butrus Ghali reported Wednesday that elements of the Croatian Army remain in Bosnia-Hercegovina despite an April resolution demanding their withdrawal along with that of the Yugoslav Army.

South Korea's Deputy Prime Minister Visits

Meets With Miyazawa 8 Jun

OW0806053592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0522 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO— Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa told South Korean Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu on Monday that Japan is moving in favor of establishing a technology transfer fund.

Miyazawa said that industrialists see a growing need for establishing the 200 million dollar fund, which South Korea proposed earlier this year as a measure to help rectify South Korea's soaring trade deficit with Japan. In 1991 South Korea suffered a record 8.8 billion dollar deficit with Japan.

The government is prepared to promote the fund once the private sector gives the green light, a Foreign Ministry official quoted Miyazawa as saying.

Miyazawa and Choe also agreed to continue striving for a mutually satisfactory resolution over a fishing pact involving waters off four Russian-occupied islands claimed by Japan, the official said.

Japan objected to an agreement between Russia and South Korea that would have granted South Korea rights to fish off the disputed islands.

Choe, who also serves as economic planning minister, did not mention other sensitive political issues, such as the bill to enable Japanese Self-Defense Forces troops to join in United Nations peacekeeping operations, the official said.

He also did not take up Japan's compensation for Korean women forced into prostitution by the Japanese military during World War II, the official said.

Choe arrived here Sunday to confer with Japanese Government officials in advance of a meeting later this week by the Japan-South Korean panel on industrial and technological cooperation.

He is to meet with International Trade and Industry Minister Kozo Watanabe, Economic Planning Agency chief Takeshi Noda, and Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata before returning home Wednesday.

Meets With Finance Minister Hata

OW0806113292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1107 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (KYODO)—Finance Minister Tsutomu Hata Monday pledged government support for a planned fund to transfer Japanese industrial technology to South Korea, officials at the Ministry of Finance (MOF) said.

Hata told South Korean Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu that the government will give appropriate support to the fund although it is basically a private-sector project, the officials said.

The fund is expected to be established with capital provided by Japanese companies as part of an action program to boost bilateral trade and technology cooperation. A bilateral task force is scheduled to draft the action program by the end of June.

The fund is the brainchild of South Korean trade officials who want to put a lid on the growing trade deficit with Japan, which hit a record 8.8 billion dollars in 1991.

Choe got a favorable response from Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa over the project in a meeting earlier in the day.

Hata, however, told Choe that the current slowdown in the Japanese economy is squeezing the amount of capital that Japanese companies can put up for the project, the MOF officials said.

Some companies might find it difficult to provide money for the scheme, Hata was quoted as saying.

Choe, in the meeting with Hata, also called on Japan to lower tariffs on a wide range of imports, including textiles, to trim Japan's trade surplus with South Korea.

Hata, pointing out the sweeping tariff reduction offer Tokyo has made in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade talks, said the issue should be discussed within the framework of the negotiations being held under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and South Korea will benefit from Japan's offer.

South African President Views Trade, Apartheid

OW0606003192 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 1400 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Report on "exclusive" interview with South African State President Frederik W. de Klerk by Aiko Doden in Tokyo; date not given; from the "Midnight Journal" program; De Klerk, Doden speak in English with Japanese translation provided by subtitles; following from the English]

[Text] [Begin video recording] [Doden] How did this very drastic restructuring come about, regarding abolition of apartheid laws and things?

[De Klerk] Sometimes it takes a long time for a message to get across. We said we now formally adopt a new policy of power-sharing without domination, of recognizing South Africa as one undivided country in which there must be universal suffrage, and in 1989, I, in even clearer terms, when I fought the election as then president-elect, said: Give me a mandate for this new policy. And they gave me a mandate and that gave me the authority and the strength and the opportunity to make the speech of 2 February 1990 which I did.

[Doden] So, how did that transition come about? I mean, what was the element that made you do that? Was that the only way of survival for South Africa?

[De Klerk] Yes, because we became convinced that the other ideal of bringing justice to all the people, of bringing democracy to all the people, would not succeed.

Separate development was intended to bring justice and democracy to everybody. But we wanted to make a little Europe out of South Africa. We could not succeed; economic realities and demographic realities militated against it, made it impossible—it failed.

And when we said to ourselves: it failed.... [end video recording]

[Video shows scenes of Afrikaner Resistance Movement (AWB) paramilitary operations and meetings, with brief segment of speech by AWB leader Eugene Terreblanche; white voters going to polls during 17 March 1992 referendum; de Klerk speech on 17 March; township violence; de Klerk-Nelson Mandela meeting; Mandela speech on unspecified date]

[Begin video recording] [De Klerk] There is no alternative for negotiation, and therefore, whether it is sooner or later, we will have to reach an agreement. And that agreement is not going to come as a result of force; it is not going to come as a result of mass action, as some of the players now plan. It will come on the basis of parties sitting around a table committed to negotiation, prepared to compromise through a process of give and take.

We must now talk about the contents, what must be in it, how must the senate be composed. There's already agreement that the first chamber should be elected on a proportional representation basis, a one-man, one-vote basis. The second chamber, we say—and that was one of the points on which we must first negotiate before we will be able to make progress—must more put the focus on regional representation, on the protection of minorities, on the protection of specific interests in the cultural field, in the economic field, and in other fields. [end video recording]

[Video shows Springbok Club reception in Tokyo, at which De Klerk is seen greeting Japanese attendees; diamond, gold mining in South Africa; township life on the mine sites]

[Begin video recording] [De Klerk, in progress] ...that you must offer security to people who have invested money, that their money and their assets won't be taken away from them. Otherwise, they won't further invest, and we need investment to create new jobs.

[Doden] So I understand you are willing to make up for the loss, for the so-called lost generation?

[De Klerk] Obviously, we need.... [changes thought] We have a poverty problem. We need to address the socioeconomic problems of a large section of our community. And, it is not as if we have only discovered it now. We have been doing it all along.

Everything is blamed on apartheid; that is wrong.

When my party came into power, there were no government schools for black people in South Africa. As of today, we're delivering one new school, average size school, per school day. Much has been done and is being done to solve the housing problem. We have urbanization, people streaming to the cities, as in the rest of Africa.

We have the same problems, and we need a strong economy with a positive, good positive growth rate to be able to create more jobs and to get enough income to fund the development programs and the upliftment programs. [end video recording]

[Video shows discussion among three NHK announcers of the South African situation]

[Begin video recording] [Doden, in progress] ...that it is not going to be a white party representing the interests of the white people. There have been some five MP's going to the ANC [African National Congress] from democratic parties recently. Will those kinds of movements occur in the future as well?

[De Klerk] But my party is not a white party any longer. It has changed its character quite a while ago. I.... [changes thought] Forty-five MP's of color walked over to my party, and I have wide support—I and my party—have wide support amongst people of color in South Africa, in some instances, amongst some population groups, majority support. So we're not.... [changes thought] When we're talking about increased majorities and 75 percent or so, we don't think we'll have less than that. We are fighting to win. We are fighting to be the majority party. [end video recording]

Tokyo 'Concerned' About Cambodia Peace Plan

OW0806102492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1014 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (KYODO)—Japan is "deeply concerned" about reported ceasefire violations in Cambodia and the unwillingness of some Cambodian elements to cooperate with United Nations peacemaking efforts there, a top Foreign Ministry official said Monday.

Vice Foreign Minister Hisashi Owada told reporters Japan is urging all Cambodian parties to respect the ceasefire so the U.N. Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC) can carry out its tasks under the Paris Peace Accord signed last October.

Officials said Owada was referring to disruptive actions by the Khmer Rouge but added that he avoided citing the guerrilla faction by name since doing so "would not be conducive to resolving the problems."

Owada said Japan is concerned that continuing violations of the peace accord will postpone its second phase set to begin June 13. The four armies are supposed to begin regrouping at U.N. sites and be disarmed at that time.

The Khmer Rouge, which has refused to allow U.N. peacekeepers access to areas under its control, insists that Phase Two not proceed until confirmation is made that all Vietnamese troops have left Cambodia and the SNC becomes a transitional government.

Owada said Japan still plans to go ahead with hosting a ministerial meeting in Tokyo on June 22 on rehabilitation and reconstruction of Cambodia despite the problems now being faced by UNTAC and the inability of Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe to attend the meeting due to illness.

Reportage on Peacekeeping Bill Issue Continues

Upper House Plenum Begins Vote

OW0506151892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1508 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 5 KYODO—A House of Councillors plenary session began late Friday night the business of bringing to a floor vote a bill enabling Japanese troops to join in U.N. peacekeeping missions.

But the upper house session was soon adjourned and was to resume at 0:30 A.M. Saturday to consider an opposition party motion seeking the resignation of the chairman of the upper house steering committee, as well as seven other motions calling on the cabinet and state ministers to take responsibility for political confusion over the bill, Diet sources said.

The reconvened session is expected to last longer than the 24-hour session in December 1988 that voted on tax reform bills introducing a hotly contested 3 percent consumption tax from April 1989.

An upper house special committee approved the peacekeeping bill early Friday after a marathon session, amid strong protests from part of the opposition camp.

Terming the upper house panel's approval "null and void," the No. 1 opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) objected to the convening of the plenary session, the sources said.

But after the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) notified the SDP and the JCP that upper house President Yuji Osada, invoking the power of his office, would open the session at 10:30 P.M., the two parties agreed to take part, the sources said.

The LDP and two centrist opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), wanted to begin the plenary session of the second chamber Friday so as to ensure enactment of the measure before the current 150-day ordinary Diet session closes June 21, parties officials said.

The three parties, which jointly submitted a modified version of the bill to the upper house special committee Monday, together hold 144 of the 252 seats in the upper chamber, well above a simple majority.

If the modified bill clears the upper house, it will be returned to the more powerful, LDP-dominated House of Representatives, which passed the original, unmodified bill last December.

The SDP plans to seek signed votes on each of its eight antigovernment motions and to use other go-slow tactics to delay passage of the peacekeeping bill, party officials said.

All-Night Session Stalls on Bill

OW0506233992 Tokyo KYODO in English 2307 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 6 KYODO—Diet business went nowhere Saturday as opponents launched all-night delaying tactics in the House of Councillors in a bid to resist passage of a bill to let Japanese troops go abroad to join U.N. peacekeeping missions.

The bill's progress in the upper house may go into Sunday or beyond, officials said.

The house convened a plenary session at 10:30 P.M. Friday and resumed 30 minutes after midnight to take a vote on the bill, passed by a special house committee early Friday morning with the backing of the governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two centrist opposition parties.

The Social Democratic Party (SDP) and Japanese Communist Party (JCP) countered by tabling a total of eight no-confidence motions against Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, five cabinet ministers and two upper house committee chairmen.

It is not clear when the plenary session will vote on the bill since the Diet needs to place priority on handling the no-confidence motions first, officials said.

However, the plenary session will eventually kill the motions since the LDP, Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party maintain a combined strength of 143 members in the 252-seat second chamber, compared with 85 for the SDP and JCP.

The session first considered a motion calling for the dismissal of the chairman of the upper house's steering committee, Takashi Inoue, who is an LDP member.

SDP and JCP legislators then dawdled at what they call a "cow walk" pace from their seats to the ballot box.

The two parties also submitted motions denouncing Miyazawa, Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe, chief Cabinet Secretary Koichi Kato, Defense Agency chief Sohei Miyashita, Transport Minister Keiwa Okuda, Home Affairs Minister Masajuro Shiokawa, and Shinichiro Shimojo, chairman of the special committee.

No-confidence motions against the prime minister and cabinet members in the upper house have no binding power since the Constitution gives such power only to the House of Representatives.

The reconvened plenary session is expected to last longer than the 24-hour session in December 1988 that voted on tax reform bills introducing a 3 percent consumption tax from April 1989.

The special committee approved the bill early Friday after a marathon session, amid strong protests from the SDP and JCP.

The two parties termed the panel's approval "null and void" and demanded the bill be returned to the committee for further deliberations.

If the bill clears the upper house, it will be sent back to the LDP-dominated House of Representatives, where it was passed late last year before being modified in the second chamber.

The revised bill calls for the Diet to give prior approval to sending Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel abroad to join U.N. peacekeeping operations.

It also includes a ban on SDF participation in peacekeeping operations that might involve military action. To lift the ban, new legislation would be required, according to the amendment.

The bill also must be reviewed three years after it is enacted.

Upper House Plenum Reopens 6 Jun

OW0606115892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1147 GMT 06 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 6 KYODO—A House of Councillors plenary session resumed Saturday evening to debate a bill to send Japanese troops overseas on United Nations peacekeeping missions.

After discussing a no-confidence motion against Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa, the upper house session adjourned shortly after 7 P.M., with the motion scheduled for a vote when the session reconvenes at 12:10 A.M. Sunday, Diet sources said.

The largest opposition group, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) jointly presented the motion against Miyazawa to resist passage of the peacekeeping bill, which would allow Japanese troops to be sent abroad for the first time to join United Nations peacekeeping missions.

The bill was approved by a special upper house committee early Friday morning with the blessing of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two centrist opposition groups.

The plenary session began late Friday night to vote on a no-confidence motion proposed by the SDP and JCP against Takashi Inoue, chairman of the upper house Steering Committee. But the SDP, the JCP, and some members in the minor opposition Rengo Sangiin group ground proceedings to a near standstill through a tactic called the "ox walk"—dawdling to the ballot box.

Rengo Sangiin is affiliated with the Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Rengo).

The go-slow tactic caused the voting to last 11 and a half hours until 1 P.M. Saturday, far surpassing the record five hours and one minute on a single motion in the upper chamber in a 24-hour session in December 1988 on tax reform bills that led to the introduction of Japan's 3 percent consumption tax in April 1989.

The upper house killed the no-confidence motion because the LDP, Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) together hold a majority of 143 members in the 252-seat chamber, compared with a combined 85 for the SDP and JCP.

The SDP and the JCP submitted six other no-confidence motions against cabinet ministers.

The LDP hopes to put to a floor vote Monday both a no-confidence motion against Shinichiro Shimojo, chairman of the upper house special committee, and the peacekeeping bill itself so that the measure can pass by the June 21 scheduled close of the current Diet session, party officials said.

The governing party called on the SDP to exercise restraint in its delaying tactics, while asking upper house President Yuji Osada to invoke his authority to see that the plenary session proceeds normally, the officials said.

But the SDP rejected the LDP request, vowing to continue its snail-pace tactics if the LDP and the two centrist parties refuse to allow debate on the bill next week, party officials said.

Once the bill clears the upper house, it will return to the LDP-dominated House of Representatives for debate and voting before enactment.

The LDP and the two centrist forces may seek a short extension of the Diet term should the debate be delayed further in the lower house, political sources said.

Also Saturday, DSP Chairman Keigo Ouchi said his party would withdraw its support of candidates for July's upper house election who are backed by Rengo's political arm, Rengo-No-Kai, if it backs the SDP on debate on the peacekeeping bill.

Speaking in Sapporo, Ouchi said the SDP's continued hard-line tactics would effectively destroy election cooperation with Rengo-backed candidates the DSP had decided to support.

Early Passage of Bill Predicted

OW0606143492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1407 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 6 KYODO—Saturday's decision by the Social Democratic Party (SDP) to abstain from voting increased the chance the House of Councillors will pass a bill early next week allowing Japanese troops to join United Nations peacekeeping missions, political sources said.

The largest opposition party made the decision at a meeting of lawmakers during a break from the "ox-walk" delaying tactics to prevent the passage of the bill. The bill would allow the government to send Self-Defense Forces personnel to UN peacekeeping operations for the first time in postwar Japanese history.

The bill cleared a special panel of the upper house early Friday morning despite strong protests from the SDP and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP).

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) hopes to get the historic legislation passed by the full upper house as early as Monday with the help of two centrist parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP).

The SDP also reaffirmed Saturday that its Diet members will walk to the ballot box at a snail's pace to stall voting on no-confidence motions against Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and Shinichiro Shimojo, chairman of the special upper house committee, to resist the passage of the bill, the officials said.

The SDP and the JCP have presented to the upper house eight no-confidence motions against government ministers and upper house chairmen.

A motion against Miyazawa will be put to a floor vote in an upper house plenary session that will resume at 12:10 A.M. Sunday, while the one against Shimojo is to be voted on Monday.

The plenary session was adjourned shortly after 7 P.M. Saturday after an hour-long discussion on the motion targeting Miyazawa.

Earlier Saturday, the upper house voted down a nonconfidence motion against Takashi Inoue, chairman of the upper house steering committee, in the wake of a record 11-and-a-half hour vote in the plenary session, which began late Friday night.

SDP and JCP members, joined by some members of the minor opposition party Rengo Sangiin, resorted to procrastinating tactics of dawdling to the ballot box from their seats, causing the session to last until 1 P.M. Saturday.

The previous record for voting in the upper chamber was five hours and one minute in December 1988 in a 24-hour session that passed tax reform legislation leading to an introduction of Japan's 3 percent consumption tax in April 1989.

To break the stalemate in the Diet, upper house President Yuji Osada may intervene among the opposing parties for a compromise, political sources said.

Upper House Resumes Debate 7 Jun

OW0606175492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1531 GMT 06 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 6 KYODO—A House of Councillors plenary session reconvened Sunday just after midnight in another effort to bring to a floor vote a bill allowing Japanese troops to join United Nations peacekeeping missions abroad.

The largest opposition party, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), decided Saturday night to abstain from voting Monday on the U.N. peacekeeping bill, increasing the chance the upper house will pass it early next week, political sources said.

The SDP also reaffirmed Saturday that its Diet members will shuffle slowly to the podium to cast their ballots on no-confidence motions against Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and Shinichiro Shimojo, chairman of the special upper house committee, to resist the passag of the bill, party officials said.

The bill cleared a special panel of the second chamber early Friday morning despite strong protests from the SDP and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP).

The governing Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two centrist parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), hope to enact the measure prior to the scheduled close of the current Diet session on June 21.

Backroom negotiations among political parties will continue to debate how to deal with six other no-confidence motions proposed by the SDP and the JCP against government ministers, Diet sources said.

The upper house killed a similar motion censuring Takashi Inoue, chairman of the upper house steering committee, after a record 11- and-a-half hour marathon session that ended Saturday afternoon.

The upper house killed the no-confidence motion because the LDP, Komeito, and the DSP together hold a majority of 143 members in the 252-seat chamber, compared with a combined 85 for the SDP and the JCP.

The governing party called on the SDP to exercise restraint in its delaying tactics, while asking upper house President Yuji Osada to invoke his authority to see that the plenary session proceeds normally, the officials said.

But the SDP rejected the LDP request, vowing to continue its snail-pace tactics if the LDP and the two centrist parties refuse to allow debate on the bill next week, party officials said.

Once the bill clears the upper house, it will return to the LDP-dominated House of Representatives for debate and voting before enactment.

Also Saturday, DSP Chairman Keigo Ouchi said his party would withdraw its support of candidates for July's upper house election who are backed by Rengo's political arm, Rengo-no-kai, if it backs the SDP on debate on the peacekeeping bill.

No-Confidence Motion Rejected

OW0706045892 Tokyo KYODO in English 0452 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 7 KYODO—The House of Councillors on Sunday rejected a motion of no-confidence directed at Prime Minister Miyazawa by two opposition parties.

The motion was filed to delay debate in an attempt to kill a U.N. peacekeeping bill which would allow Japanese Self-Defense Forces personnel to be dispatched overseas on U.N. peacekeeping missions.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) voted down the no-confidence motion in the plenary session of the upper house about seven hours after upper house president Yuji Osada opened the session shortly after Saturday midnight.

Upper house members of Japan's largest-opposition Social Democratic Party (SDP) and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP) also walked slowly to the ballot box as a tactic to further delay the passage of the bill.

The plenary session of the upper house adjourned shortly after 7 A.M. Sunday, ending a third consecutive all-night session.

The LDP and SDP may soon reach a compromise, opening the way for the bill to be passed through the plenary session of the upper house as early as Monday, officials of the parties said.

The two parties' policy affairs committee chairmen are holding talks to establish a compromise, the officials said.

The two parties are discussing whether they can reopen a plenary session Sunday night to vote on a no-confidence motion against Shinichiro Shimojo, chairman of the special upper house committee on peacekeeping, they said.

Following the vote on the no-confidence motion against Shimojo, LDP, Komeito, and DSP members will vote for the peacekeeping bill, while SDP and JCP members will abstain from voting on the bill, according to the officials.

As part of the compromise plan, the SDP would withdraw no-confidence motions against five state ministers, the officials said.

The LDP, Komeito, and the DSP together hold a majority of 143 members in the 252-seat second chamber, compared with the combined 85 held by the SDP and the JCP.

The governing party will ask upper house President Yuki Osada to invoke his authority to normalize Diet business and allow a vote on the U.N. peacekeeping bill.

The SDP and the JCP opposed the opening of the plenary session of the upper house, where the bill was submitted after the LDP and the two centrist parties passed it through the special peacekeeping committee Friday.

The two opposition parties have charged that vote on the bill in the special committee was void because Shimojo did not follow proper voting procedures.

The LDP, Komeito, and the DSP rejected the charge, saying that Shimojo handled voting procedures in accordance with Diet rules even though the special committee was in a state of disorder at the closing stage.

Upper house president Osada used his authority to open the plenary session shortly after midnight Saturday after the SDP prepared to submit eight no-confidence motions against cabinet ministers and Diet members to delay voting on the bill.

The upper house killed the first motion censuring Takashi Inoue, chairman of the steering committee, after a record 11-and-a-half- hour marathon session that ended Saturday afternoon.

Members of Rengo Sangiin, affiliated with Japan's largest trade union confederation Rengo which is opposed to the U.N. peacekeeping bill, joined the SDP and the JCP in using slow-walk tactics to vote on the no-confidence motion against Inoue.

Rengo Sangiin members did not, however, take part in the delay tactics during the vote on the motion against Miyazawa.

5 No-Confidence Motions Withdrawn

OW0706123092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1212 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 7 KYODO—A bill to allow Japanese troops to join United Nations peacekeeping missions abroad appeared set for passage by the House of Councillors by Tuesday morning after lawmakers opened a plenary session Sunday night.

Opposition parties' delaying tactics forced what promised to be the upper house's third straight all-night session on the controversial bill.

The ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and opposition parties agreed behind the scenes to call a vote (?over) the bill after lawmakers vote on a no-confidence motion against Shinichiro Shimojo, chairman of the upper house's special committee that passed the bill Friday, Diet sources said.

Handling the no-confidence vote at the session that opened at 8 P.M. Sunday would allow a vote on the bill itself late Monday night or early Tuesday morning, the sources said.

Passage of the bill is regarded as a formality because its backers—the LDP, Komeito, and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP)—together hold a 143-member majority in the 252-seat chamber, compared with a combined 85 for the opposing Social Democratic Party (SDP) and Japanese Communist Party (JCP).

The LDP earlier watered down the bill to gain the support of the centrist Komeito and the DSP, needed to secure passage of the bill through the opposition-controlled upper house.

The bill now would allow the dispatch of Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel to join such U.N. peacekeeping operations as rescuing refugees and medical care, but it freezes SDF's participation in such riskier U.N. jobs as cease-fire monitoring.

But the SDP, Japan's largest opposition group, and the JCP, reject any role for Japan's military overseas, strictly interpreting the nation's pacifist postwar Constitution.

The two parties had originally lodged eight no-confidence motions, including the one against Shimojo.

The LDP, Komeito, and DSP killed a no-confidence motion against Takashi Inoue, chairman of the upper house steering committee, after a record 11-and-a-half-hour session that ended Saturday afternoon.

A similar motion aimed at Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa failed after a seven-hour session Sunday morning due to go-slow tactics by the SDP and JCP.

The SDP decided to withdraw no-confidence motions against five cabinet ministers because political sources said some of its Diet members were exhausted by such tactics as the "cow's walk," in which legislators shuffle almost imperceptibly slowly to cast ballots.

The SDP also decided to attend the upper house plenary session and launch the go-slow tactic on voting the bill, party officials said.

The SDP made the decision at a meeting of its upper house Diet members, party officials said.

Chairman Makoto Tanabe said at the meeting, "I hope you will fight tenaciously to the very end."

Manzo Hamamoto, chairman of the party's upper house Diet administration committee, told its members, "We will kill the PKO (peacekeeping operations) bill in the House of Representatives. Our goal is to delay (passage of the bill) to May 9 at the earliest."

The bill will return to the lower house after passage through the upper house because of the revisions made to it. The lower house passed the original bill in December with the support of the LDP and Komeito.

The LDP has a commanding majority in the powerful lower house.

Delaying Tactics Continued

OW0806033992 Tokyo KYODO in English 0319 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO—Continued delaying tactics by opposition parties are expected to hold up until Tuesday the passage of the United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill, political sources said Monday.

The government bill to enable Japanese troops to participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations is supported by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP).

It is opposed by the largest opposition party, the Social Democratic Party (SDP), and the Japanese Communist Party (JCP), which claim it would violate the Constitution.

Rengo Sangiin, affiliated with Japan's biggest labor organization, while not opposed to the bill, joined in the go-slow to protest its being rammed through a committee stage on Friday.

At a House of Councillors plenary session that resumed shortly after 1 A.M. Monday, the SDP, JCP, and Rengo Sangiin members used a slow-walking tactic in voting on a no-confidence motion against Shinichiro Shimojo, chairman of a special house committee.

Voting on the motion is expected to last until 2 P.M. at the earliest or possibly Monday evening, as SDP, JCP, and Rengo Sangiin members shuffled at a snail's pace to the podium to cast their ballots.

As of 10 A.M., 47 legislators still had to cast their ballots, including 21 SDP members.

Monday's voting is expected to take longer than that on a similar no-confidence motion Saturday against Takashi Inoue, chairman of the upper house steering committee, which took 11 and a half hours to vote on, the sources said.

The chances of the peacekeeping bill passing through the upper house Monday are receding, the sources said.

The second chamber in its plenary session killed another motion Sunday morning censuring Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa for causing confusion in the Diet. Voting on that motion lasted about seven hours from the time of its introduction shortly after midnight Saturday.

The SDP and the JCP jointly tabled five other motions in the upper house calling for dismissal of government ministers, but decided Sunday to drop them in consideration of the fatigue among members.

Three SDP members are absent from Monday's plenary session, apparently exhausted by the second consecutive all-night plenary session of the upper house. They are Kiyoko Kusakabe, 56, Atsushi Akiyama, 65, and Kunji Tabuchi, 62.

The peacekeeping bill cleared the special house panel early Friday morning in another all-night debate.

On Sunday night, upper house President Yuji Osada and Vice President Ippei Koyama stepped in to mediate among political parties on the measure, Diet sources said.

They reportedly voiced deep concern over the series of protracted plenary sessions and called on the political forces to finish voting on the peacekeeping bill by 6 P.M. Monday.

The LDP, Komeito and the DSP agreed to accept the proposal, and Rengo Sangiin followed suit, albeit conditionally, officials of the parties said.

The SDP and the JCP rejected the request late Sunday night, vowing to continue the "ox-walk" delaying tactic in the voting on the no-confidence motion against Shimojo, officials of the parties said.

The peacekeeping bill is expected to eventually pass through the upper house because the LDP, Komeito, and the DSP together hold a majority of 143 members in the 252-seat chamber, compared with a combined 85 for the SDP and the JCP.

The bill will return to the LDP-dominated House of Representatives after passage through the upper house because the LDP amended the bill to gain the support of Komeito and the DSP so as to ensure its enactment before the scheduled close of the current regular Diet session on June 21.

The LDP, Komeito, and the DSP will seek a short extension of the Diet term should the debate be delayed in the lower house, which passed the original, unmodified bill last December, political sources said.

Under the amendments, prior Diet approval would be needed each time Japan's Self-Defense Forces (SDF) personnel were to join U.N. peacekeeping missions abroad.

The amendments also temporarily freeze SDF participation in peacekeeping operations that might involve military actions, and call for a review of the bill three years after enactment.

PKO Vote Delayed Until 9 Jun

OW0806082592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0817 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (KYODO)—Opposition parties continued all-night delaying tactics through Monday for the third consecutive day, holding up until Tuesday the passage of a United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill through the House of Councillors.

The bill is now almost certain to be passed by the upper house Tuesday, political sources said.

The legislation, which would open the way for the first dispatch of Japanese troops overseas to join U.N. peacekeeping missions, will then be sent back to the House of Representatives for final approval.

Social Democratic Party (SDP) Chairman Makoto Tanabe said Monday his party's resistance has won support from peace-loving people. Tanabe said the SDP would mount a fresh offensive in the lower chamber against the bill.

The upper house plenary session voted 136-99 Monday afternoon to kill a motion denouncing Shinichiro Shimojo, chairman of the house's Special Committee on International Peace and Cooperation, after a record 13-hour parliamentary tally.

The motion, filed by the SDP, was the third in a series of eight filibuster measures the largest opposition party employed after the special committee passed the bill in the early hours of Friday amid angry protests from opponents.

The plenary session killed a motion Saturday which called for the dismissal of Takashi Inoue, chairman of the upper house Steering Committee, and did the same Sunday to one denouncing Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

Parties have agreed to take a vote on the bill after the motion against Shimojo, shelving five motions against cabinet ministers.

Following formalities of the plenary session Monday evening, the upper house will go into another all-night sitting shortly after midnight to vote on the bill.

In the overnight session through Monday afternoon, members of the SDP and Japanese Communist Party (JCP) resorted to what they called "ox-walk" tactics, which calls for each voter to walk from their seat to the ballot box as slowly as possible.

Members of minor opposition party Rengo Sangiin joined the Social Democrats and Communists in the go-slow tactics, but spent less time.

Members of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two centrist opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP), rejected the motion censuring Shimojo in 13 hours after the reconvening of an upper house plenary session shortly after 1 A.M. Monday.

The previous record for voting on a single item in the Diet was 11 hours and 29 minutes set Saturday in a session that voted down the motin against Inoue, LDP chairman of the Steering Committee.

Voting on the motion against Miyazawa lasted about seven hours from the time of its introduction shortly after midnight Saturday.

The peacekeeping bill is expected to eventually clear the upper house since the LDP, Komeito and the DSP together hold a majority of 143 members in the 252-seat chamber. The SDP and the JCP hold a combined strength 85, while there are 13 Rengo Sangiin members.

The legislation will return to the LDP-dominated House of Representatives since the original bill was modified during deliberations in the upper house.

The LDP watered down the bill to woo Komeito and the DSP into supporting it to ensure its enactment before the term for the current 150-day regular Diet session expires June 21.

The three parties might seek a short extension of the Diet term should the deliberations be delayed in the lower house, which passed the original version of the bill last December, political sources said.

The amendments would temporarily freeze Self-Defense Forces' [SDF] participation in U.N. peacekeeping forces that might involve military action. After the suspension is lifted, advance Diet approval would be required to send SDF units abroad for such operations.

They also call for a review of the bill three years after its enactment.

SDP To Discontinue 'Ox-Walk'

OW0806125492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1247 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (KYODO)—The Social Democratic Party (SDP) decided Monday night to stop employing "ox walk" delaying tactics in the House of Councillors plenary session that resumes past midnight to vote on a United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill.

The largest opposition SDP unanimously agreed to vote in an orderly manner on the bill, and not resort to the ox walk, in which each voter dawdles from his or her seat to the ballot box as slowly as possible, party sources said.

Also, representatives of each party, except the Japanese Communist Party (JCP), accepted upper house President Yuji Osada's call Monday afternoon for normal voting on the bill, Diet sources said.

With the latest moves, the bill is now almost certain to be passed through the upper house by Tuesday morning and then be sent back to the more-powerful House of Representatives for final approval, the sources said.

The bill has to return to the LDP-dominated lower house because the original was modified during deliberations in the upper house.

Osada voiced concern over the series of protracted plenary sessions and said the upper house may go into an all-night deliberations for the fifth consecutive day if things continue as they have.

The SDP, and the JCP, joined by minor opposition Rengo Sangiin, have resorted to the go-slow tactics for three nights in a row to protest the bill being rammed through the upper house Special Committee on International Peace and Cooperation on Friday.

Osada cited the declining health of some of the lawmakers due to the continuing overnight deliberations, and urged the representatives to be orderly during the vote.

At least three SDP legislators in the upper house fell ill while exercising the party-mandated tactic.

The legislation to enable overseas dispatch of Self-Defense Forces personnel to join U.N. peacekeeping missions is supported by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two opposition parties, Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP).

Together they hold a majority of 143 members in the 252-seat chamber.

Earlier in the day, the upper house plenary session voted 136-99 to kill a motion denouncing Shinichiro Shimojo, chairman of the special committee, after a record 13-hour parliamentary tally.

The motion, filed by the SDP, was the third in a series of eight filibuster measures it employed after the committee passed the bill in the early hours of Friday amid angry protests from opponents.

The plenary session killed a motion Saturday which called for the dismissal of Takashi Inoue, chairman of the upper house Steering Committee, and did the same Sunday to one denouncing Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa.

The previous record for voting on a single item in the Diet was 11 hours and 29 minutes set Saturday in a session that voted down the motion against Inoue.

Parties have agreed to take a vote on the bill after the motion against Shimojo, shelving five no-confidence motions against cabinet ministers [as received].

Voting on the motion against Miyazawa lasted about seven hours from the time of its introduction shortly after midnight Saturday.

The LDP watered down the peacekeeping bill to woo Komeito and the DSP into supporting it to ensure its enactment before the term for the current 150-day regular Diet session expires on June 21.

The three parties might seek a short extension of the Diet term should the deliberations be delayed in the lower house, which passed the original version of the bill last December, political sources said.

The amendments would require prior Diet approval to send SDF personnel abroad to participate in U.N. peacekeeping operations.

They also call for a review of the bill three years after its enactment.

Hiraiwa Criticizes Stalling

OW0806110892 Tokyo KYODO in English 1102 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (KYODO)—Gaiishi Hiraiwa, head of Japan's most powerful business group, said Monday the current attempt by two opposition parties to delay passage of peacekeeping legislation in parliament underscores the need for political reform.

The chairman of the Federation of Economic Organizations (Keidanren), said the Social Democratic Party and the Japanese Communist Party should abandon their so-called "cow-walk" tactic aimed at slowing voting in the upper house on bills allowing Japanese troops to be sent abroad for United Nations peacekeeping missions.

The legislation has the support of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party and two centrist opposition parties.

"It's my feeling in some sense that there is no justification for such a technique. More reforms are needed to modernize Diet business and this is a problem that should be discussed in proceeding with parliamentary and political reforms," Hiraiwa told reporters at a press conference.

Hiraiwa also urged the government to help boost domestic demand and guide the yen higher in order to reduce the nation's mounting trade surplus.

But the business leader was quick to note that there is no need at the moment for the Bank of Japan to lower its official discount rate.

He called on Prime Minister Kiichi Miyawawa to clearly explain Japan's economic policy at the summit meeting of the world's seven major industrial nations in Munich, Germany, in mid-July.

Hiraiwa also noted that Japan could introduce daylight savings time during summer months to help save energy and shortern working hours.

Japan and Iceland are the only industrial nations which do not have such a system.

The issue has consistently turned on worries over the impact on productivity but Hiraiwa said it should now be looked at from a "new viewpoint."

Radicals Claim Responsibility for Explosions

OW0806051492 Tokyo KYODO in English 0445 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO—The radical leftist group Chukaku-ha (Middle Core Faction) claimed responsiblity Monday for explosions that occurred at three locations in Tokyo early Friday, police said.

The explosions, apparently set off to protest the government's United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill, caused limited damage at places including an office of Education Minister Kunio Hatoyama, but no one was injured.

The blasts occurred simultaneously at the residences of Hatoyama and Kunihiko Saito, 54, director of the Labor Ministry secretariat, and near the home of Iichiro Hatoyama, a House of Councillors member and father of the education minister.

The group apparently mistakenly set a bomb at Saito's residence, wrongly describing him as a "former deputy foreign minister" in a statement sent to Tokyo-based news organizations, police said.

Kunihiko Saito, deputy foreign minister in charge of political affairs, also lives in Tokyo.

The leftist group said in the statement that "the rage of workers will explode on the night of a forced approval (of the bill) by the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), Komeito and the Democratic Socialist Party (DSP) at a special House of Councillors committee."

The group also said, "We will continue to fight until the bill is completely demolished."

The bill to enable the dispatch of Japan's Self-Defence Forces overseas to participate in U.N. peacekeeping missions, cleared the special upper house panel early Friday morning despite intense resistance by part of the opposition camp.

Doctors Undecided on Need for Watanabe Surgery

OW0606130792 Tokyo KYODO in English 1253 GMT 06 Jun 92

[Text] Utsunomiya, June 6 KYODO—A team of doctors treating Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe for a gallstone and biliary tract infection will study his schedule of upcoming overseas trips to see if he needs immediate surgery, his son said Saturday.

Yoshimi Watanabe said his father's doctors will decide whether to operate or discharge the foreign minister from the hospital without surgery to attend key meetings abroad next month.

Watanabe plans to attend the July 6-8 annual economic summit of the world's seven major industrial nations in Munich and a Manila meeting of Southeast Asian Foreign Ministers July 27 to 29.

A weekly magazine published by the leading publishing house BUNGEI SHUNJU reported this week that Watanabe has a tumor near his pancreas. It is not clear if the tumor is malignant or benign, the weekly SHUKAN BUNSHUN said.

Miyazawa To Retain Watanabe as Foreign Minister

OW0806125392 Tokyo KYODO in English 1234 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 KYODO—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa said Monday he will retain Foreign Minister Michio Watanabe at least until the July election for the House of Councillors.

Miyazawa made the remark during a visit to Watanabe's suite at Tokyo Women's Medical College hospital, officials said.

Government sources said Watanabe apparently understands the premier's present policy of serving concurrently as foreign minister while he is laid up.

A high-ranking government source said the Miyazawa cabinet expects Watanabe to remain as foreign minister despite his illness in order to negotiate the return of four disputed Russian-held islands to Japan.

The government does not plan to transfer Watanabe's portfolios of deputy prime minister and foreign minister, the source said.

Watanabe, wearing a Kimono and running shoes, briefly appeared before the press Monday afternoon and expressed regret for being in hospital while the government was trying to pass peacekeeping legislation through parliament.

The legislation, backed by the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) and two centrist opposition parties, would allow Japan to send Self-Defense Forces personnel abroad on United Nations peacekeeping missions.

Asked by reporters about his immediate future as foreign minister, Watanabe said he is asking the LDP and the cabinet to decide on his status.

The developments followed a statement by Michio Ochi, a senior aide to Watanabe, that the foreign minister will undergo an operation for a gallstone and bile duct infection this week at the earliest.

Ochi, secretary general of the Watanabe faction within the LDP, made the remark following a brief meeting Monday morning with Watanabe at the Tokyo hospital.

Ochi said Watanabe had conferred over the phone with LDP Vice President Shin Kanemaru, LDP Secretary General Tamisuke Watanuki, and others since Sunday over the matter.

Many Watanabe faction members believe the foreign minister will not be able to attend the July 6-8 annual economic summit of the world's seven major industrialized countries in Munich, faction sources said.

Watanabe, 68, was admitted to the hospital on May 31 after complaining of acute abdominal pain.

Meanwhile, a top Foreign Ministry source said that if Watanabe is unable to attend a ministerial meeting in Tokyo on June 22 on the reconstruction of Cambodia, other officials can take his place at the meeting and in bilateral talks with visiting dignitaries.

The source said that as for other upcoming diplomatic events, Watanabe will be consulted on how they are to be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

He indicated that if Watanabe is unable to attend the Munich summit, another official could go in his place.

The source noted as a precedent the 1980 Venice summit, when then Foreign Minister Saburo Okita filled in for Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira after the latter's death.

At that time, a deputy foreign minister held meetings with the foreign ministers of other countries, which would normally have been the duty of Okita.

Ruling Party's Kanemaru Urges Cabinet Reshuffle

OW0606115292 Tokyo KYODO in English 1112 GMT 06 Jun 92

[Text] Washington, June 6 KYODO—Shin Kanemaru, vice president of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), called on Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa Friday to make changes in his cabinet after the House of Councillors election scheduled for July 26.

He made the comment while on a visit to Washington in response to reporters' questions on whether he would recommend a cabinet reshuffle to Miyazawa.

"Next time I speak with Premier Miyazawa, I will convey my advice to him if he seeks my opinion," said the ruling party kingmaker, who played a pivotal role in putting Miyazawa in power last November.

The former deputy prime minister stressed that there are many LDP legislators seeking to be appointed cabinet ministers, describing the hopefuls as "lots of backlogs."

The July election will fill half of the House of Councillors' 252 seats.

Kanemaru also called for extending the current regular Diet session beyond its June 21 deadline if a Social Democratic Party filibuster threatens passage of a bill that would send the Japanese military overseas to join UN peacekeeping operations.

"Because it is undesirable for the Diet to kill the PKO (peacekeeping operations) bill, it should extend the length of the session as long as it is needed," said Miyazawa's most influential LDP backer.

His comments came as the opposition's "cow-walk" filibuster—marching to the podium at a snail's pace to vote—is threatening to delay the final vote on the bill beyond the Diet deadline.

"Our common sense tells us that if passage of the PKO bill is secured, (Miyazawa) will not have to dissolve (the House of Representatives)," he said.

However, Kanemaru warned of unpredictability in politics, saying, "the behavior of the political community is utterly unpredictable."

"It sometimes carries out what it earlier said it would not do," he said.

Kanemaru also said that to respond to public calls for political reforms, the LDP must carry through a proposal to reduce the large disparity in the value of urban and rural votes.

He said the LDP leadership has to persuade some recalcitrant party members to accept the plan to cut 10 House of Representatives seats from overrepresented constituencies and add nine seats in underrepresented constituencies.

MOF Official Views High Trade Surplus Figures

OW0506105492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1034 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 5 KYODO—A top-ranking official of the Ministry of Finance (MOF) on Friday tried to play down the latest trade statistics, claiming Japan's surplus won't continue rising. Hiroshi Yasuda, vice finance minister, told a press conference that the large current account surplus in April was not a product of sluggish domestic demand.

The MOF reported earlier in the day that Japan's current account surplus rose 22.1 percent to 9.75 billion dollars in April, the largest ever for the month.

Yasuda, while admitting the surplus is big, said, "I don't think the surplus will keep expanding." He argued that exports had increased not because of rising volume, but because exports of big-ticket items like cars and ships were brisk.

"It is not that Japanese companies staged an export drive in the face of the weak domestic demand," he said.

Yasuda also said the current uptrend of the yen is desirable since it is in line with the communiques released in both January and April by finance ministers and central bankers of the Group of Seven (G-7) major industrial countries.

Kanemaru Pledges Resolve on 3.5% Economic Growth

OW0606084592 Tokyo KYODO in English 0838 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Washington, June 6 KYODO—A senior Japanese politician said Friday that Japan will do its utmost to attain an inflation-adjusted 3.5 percent economic growth target for fiscal 1992.

Shin Kanemaru, vice president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, suggested to Japanese reporters that the government may formulate a supplementary budget to prop up the domestic economy.

"All efforts will be made to attain economic growth," he said, referring to the government's target of 3.5 percent growth rate in fiscal 1992 ending next March 31.

His remark indicated the government would take fiscal measures while monitoring effects of its economic package, including the front-loading of public works outlays.

Kanemaru brushed aside opposition demands for income tax cuts, saying tax incentives for corporate investment and measures to promote housing construction are keys to economic recovery.

He expressed hope for a successful conclusion of the stalled Uruguay Round of world trade negotiations, which he said is important for free world trade.

In addition, he stressed the need for Japan to take a flexible approach to opening Japan's rice market to imports.

Miyazawa 'Still' Plans To Attend Earth Summit

OW0806103492 Tokyo KYODO in English 1026 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (KYODO)—Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa still thinks he can find time to escape Diet machinations over a United Nations Peacekeeping Cooperation Bill to attend the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, government sources said Monday.

Miyazawa's attendance at the United Nations environment conference has been hindered by upper house debate and opposition delaying tactics over the bill which will allow Japanese troops to join U.N. peacekeeping missions abroad.

Some in the ruling Liberal Democratic Party are saying it will be impossible for him to attend the summit.

But Deputy Chief Cabinet Secretary Nobuo Ishihara said Miyazawa would [words indistinct] schedule to attend a Rio meeting of world leaders Saturday.

The prime minister is scheduled to speak for 10 minutes at the meeting.

Miyazawa is considering leaving Friday evening for Brazil from Haneda Airport and would return Monday at the earliest, Foreign Ministry sources said.

Tokyo Decides To Leave Wheat Price Unchanged

OW0406063892 Tokyo NHK General Television Network in Japanese 0300 GMT 4 Jun 92

[From the "NHK News" program]

[Text] The Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Ministry plans to leave this year's so-called wheat producers' price,—at which the government purchases wheat from producers, unchanged for the first time in seven years. The Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Ministry submitted the plan to the Rice Price Council today.

The council began examining the plan a little after 1000 this morning in the annex of the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Ministry in Kudan, Tokyo. At the meeting, Minister Masami Tanabu of the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Ministry stated that he wanted to set this year's wheat price at 9,110 yen per 60 kg, the same as last year.

In consultations with the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] on the issue last night, the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Ministry insisted on reducing the price for seven consecutive years. It cited as a reason the need for rectifying disparity in prices between foreign- and domestically-produced wheat in order to win understanding from consumers and dealers.

However, because of an 8.7 percent increase in production costs over the previous year, the figure calculated based on production cost per 60 kg of wheat, and because of the approaching upper house election, the LDP opposed the reduction. In the end, the two sides agreed to leave the price unchanged.

The Rice Price Council is expected to agree on the plan tonight. The discussions on the wheat price, considered a preview of the expected skirmish on the price of rice, are expected to have an impact on the price of rice. The Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Ministry will decide on this year's rice price at or after the end of this month. It is likely to leave the price unchanged.

Safety of Overseas Tourists' Council Established

OW0306130092 Tokyo KYODO in English 1251 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 3 (KYODO)—Japan's public and private sectors have established a council on ensuring the safety of Japanese traveling abroad, Foreign Ministry officials said Wednesday.

They said the council has the Foreign Ministry, the Japan Overseas Enterprises Association, the Japan Association of Travel Agents, and seven other industrial organizations as its members.

The council will hold its inaugural meeting in Tokyo on June 8.

The Foreign Ministry will exchange data with the council on volatile countries and regions in the world and other subjects to prevent Japanese nationals from being involved in accidents.

Japanese overseas travelers topped 10 million last year.

North Korea

ROK Tunnel Infiltration Claim Denounced

SK0806011792 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 2357 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] The South Korean puppets are conducting a frenzied anti-North smear campaign against us and artificially aggravating the situation these days by fabricating nonexistent incidents. They babbled that at dawn on 6 June [as heard], so-called armed communist guerrillas infiltrated areas around Chongok-ri, Yonchon County, south of the Military Demarcation Line on the central front. To add veracity, they also dispatched a number of armed rascals to conduct checks and searches.

Before this, on 4 June, the South Korean puppets said they had found someone else's underground tunnels in Hupyong-ri, Kimpo County, Kyonggi Province, and some others places in the metropolitan area. They also falsely reported that they had recorded tunneling sounds and human voices. Coinciding with this fabricated report, the South Korean puppets are viciously conducting propaganda offensives to find fault with us.

This is a premeditated anticommunist smear campaign designed to aggravate the situation on the Korean peninsula; to suppress the antifascist struggle for democracy by the South Korean people, youth, and students, which is being heightened daily with the upcoming presidential election; and to build artificial obstacles to North-South dialogue. The South Korean puppets must immediately stop their anti-North smear campaign to mislead international public opinion. If the South Korean puppets continue their smear campaign, which will promote mistrust and confrontation between the North and South and deliberately aggravate the situation, they will not be able to escape the strong denunciation by the Korean people and the people around the world and will be held fully responsible for all consequences that may arise from it.

'Self-Made Trap' Ridiculed

SK0706150192 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0028 GMT 7 Jun 92

[NODONG SINMUN 7 June commentary: "They Have Fallen into a Self-Made Trap"]

[Text] Another strange commotion has been raised recently in South Korea and it is ridiculed by the people.

Some time ago, there were widespread rumors that civilian prospectors in South Korea discovered tunnels at four places around Seoul including Hupyong-ri, Kimpo County, Kyonggi Province.

They cited lumps of cement found in materials to be tested that were extracted from a hole drilled 108 meters below the surface. They also cited recorded machine sounds and human voices coming from the cavity as evidence showing the existence of tunnels for southward invasion.

Some papers and radios used banner headlines in reporting this out of proportion. However, it has now been fully revealed that this new tunnel incident is a fabrication.

On 4 June, the puppet Defense Ministry officially announced that they were not underground tunnels according to findings based on close analytical work of the drilling and sound waves.

According to the findings, the lumps of cement extracted for testing were cakes of powdered rock larger than the drilled hole in diameter. What was said to be recorded machine sounds were merely noises and vibrating sounds emanating from drilling machines. The language coming from the human voices was not that of the North, but was that of the South.

If innocent children say that they have seen ghosts when in fact they only saw the glow of fireflies at night, one can laugh it away. However, this incident is too serious a political strategic extravaganza to dismiss with a laugh.

It may be that the manufacturers of the incident have fabricated this in a backroom to bring the internal situation in South Korea under control with the upcoming presidential election and are using it to worsen South-North relations. However, when it failed to convince people and, on the contrary, brought the South Korean authorities to howl since they became the target of public sentiment that demanded an explanation, they had no choice but to apparently announce hurriedly that it was a fabrication.

Whenever crises have occured, the South Korean rulers have fabricated incidents of underground tunnels to overcome them. They went so far as to dig a tunnel in preparation for a war of northward invasion and then preposterously launched an offensive referring to it in a far-fetched manner as a tunnel for southward invasion.

The latest incident, however, showed the world once again that all those strategic dramas were fabrications.

The South Korean rulers dug a trap to hurt us, but ended up falling into it themselves. That is to say, those who try to catch others end up getting caught themselves.

Allied Security Talks Called 'Criminal'

SK0806102392 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1001 GMT 8 Jun 92

["Challenge to International Inspection"—KCNA headline]

[Text] Pyongyang June 8 (KCNA)—The South Korean authorities kicked up a row over our nuclear problem, holding a tripartite "working-level meeting for security" with their American and Japanese masters and "high-level strategic meeting on North-South relations", sending a telephone message of the "prime minister" and publishing a "statement toward the North" of a spokesman of the South side to the inter-Korean high-level talks.

This is one more outrageous challenge to us and a deliberate criminal move to give up the implementation of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization and bring the North-South relations back to the state of distrust and confrontation.

NODONG SINMUN today says this in a commentary, noting that it is a high-handed move for the South Korean authorities to provoke the North over its nuclear issue which poses no problem.

The analyst goes on:

It is noteworthy that their racket timed to coincide with the inspection of our nuclear facilities by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA].

The IAEA inspection of our nuclear facilities are under way.

The South Korean authorities are afraid that the issue of nuclear inspection of the North might be smoothly settled by the IAEA inspection. It is because a plot called "North's nuke development" they hatched up with the United States and Japan will be exposed to the world public. Therefore, the South Korean authorities are working with extra zeal to aggravate the North-South regations so as tm disparage the results of the international nuclear inspection of the North and find a pretext for a "special inspection". This is an impudent act of ignoring the authority of the iaea and challenging it.

The South Korean authorities, if they are truly interested in solving the nuclear problem of the Korean peninsula, must immediately stop their smear nuclear racket, accept the inspection of the U.S. nuclear bases and weapons in South Korea and take a decisive step to realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

Commentaries Berate ROK Over Nuclear Issue

'Nuclear Commotions' Denounced

SK0606105992 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1149 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Commentary by station commentator Yun Pyong-son: "What Do They Intend To Get From Their Nuclear Commotions?"]

[Text] The South Korean authorities after being instigated by the U.S. imperialists recently convened the so-called high-level strategy session on North-South relations, sent a telephone message, and released a statement concerning the North. Every time they make a fuss, they make violent remarks that make it difficult to expect substantial progress in North-South relations. They said: Unless our nuclear inspection issue is fundamentally resolved according to their plan, they would resume the suspended Team Spirit exercise beginning next year. This is a deliberate maneuver to aggravate North-South relations which had been moving toward detente and a vicious challenge to us, a dialogue partner.

The South Korean rulers are kicking up nuclear inspection commotions against us under the pretext of the North's nuclear threat. This is a shameless. We have stated many times that we do not have nuclear weapons. We have neither the intention nor capability to develop them, and we do not need to do so. To make rapid progress in nuclear inspection and to denuclearize the Korean peninsula, we are receiving nuclear inspection from International Atomic Energy Agency experts. The North-South nuclear inspection which is stipulated in the joint denuclearization declaration is also now being discussed at the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee.

Why has no progress to speak of been made in resolving the nuclear issue even though the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee was inaugurated more than two months ago? Needless to say, this is because the South Korean side is deliberately using delay tactics as manipulated by the U.S. imperialists behind the scenes. As you well know, the nuclear issue on the Korean peninsula was raised because the United States deployed approximately 1,000 nuclear weapons in South Korea, and the nuclear threat comes from the South. Therefore, if nuclear inspection is to be carried out, inspection of U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear weapons must first be conducted as well as full and simultaneous inspection. Nevertheless, the South Korean side rejected our just proposals and insisted on only its unjust proposals for inspection of equal numbers, special inspection [tuksu sachal], and inspection of ordinary military bases. Their ulterior motive is to exclude the U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea from inspection.

The South Korean side even came empty-handed to a dialogue designed to resolve the nuclear issue without bringing a draft agreement that would serve as a basis for discussion. It also repeated unjust demands during negotiations, thus creating obstacles. This clearly shows that it has no intention to implement the joint denuclearization declaration.

Our nuclear inspection issue is being resolved smoothly by IAEA inspection. Why are the South Korean authorities suddenly kicking up nuclear commotions against us just like a thief turning on the victim with a club? As you well know, nuclear inspection by the IAEA was raised by the United States and the South Korean authorities. At a time when our nuclear issue is being resolved satisfactorily, the South Korean authorities are now finding themselves in an awkward situation in the face of international public opinion. Also, the preconditions for improving DPRK-Japan and DPRK-U.S. relations which they presented may have come to nothing.

Therefore, the South Korean authorities are raising the nuclear issue again. This time, they are trying to diminish the importance of the IAEA's inspection result and are trying to find a pretext for special inspection [tukpyol sachal] as well as to aggravate North-South relations. They are newly putting a brake on the improvement of DPRK-Japan and DPRK-U.S. relations.

There are other reasons why South Korean rulers are kicking up nuclear commotions. The South Korean ruling bunch is now facing a serious crisis. After stating that Kim Yong-sam, a political prostitute, is not qualified as a presidential candidate, the youth, students, and people from various walks of life daily stage demonstrations and hold meetings across South Korea to oppose and reject the Democratic Liberal Party's [DLP] coming to power again as the students and others try to build a democratic government. They are also asking the authorities to implement the North-South agreement and the joint denuclearization declaration, abolish the fascist National Security Law, and release people who are detained for visiting the North. Such developments greatly worry the South Korean ruling bunch which is seeking to extend its dictatorship by seeking the DLP's reelection in the presidential election scheduled for December.

The South Korean rulers are making a fuss over our nuclear issue, which is a nonexistent problem. Their vicious intent is to aggravate North-South relations, suppress and obliterate democratic forces by resorting to violence, and promote a favorable atmosphere to ensure that the DLP again comes to power. However, the South Korean authorities will achieve nothing from their nuclear commotions against us. Their maneuvers will more clearly show their antidialogue, antipeace, and antireunification colors. The South Korean rulers must immediately stop kicking up criminal maneuvers to turn the situation back to the confrontational situation that prevailed before the adoption of the North-South agreement and the joint denuclearization declaration. Otherwise, the South Korean ruling bunch will face the stern judgment of the people who hope for peace and reunification.

NODONG SINMUN Commentary

SK0706071592 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 0018 GMT 6 Jun 92

[NODONG SINMUN 6 June commentary: "A Premeditated Provocative Commotion Aimed at Discontinuing the Implementation of the Agreement and Deteriorating North-South Relations"]

[Text] The South Korean authorities have recently halted the implementation of the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization. They have kicked up a new provocative commotion aimed at worsening North-South relations and getting us provoked about the nuclear issue.

Through what is known as the tripartite meeting of the security working officials, which includes their U.S. and Japanese masters, and then through a high-level strategic meeting on South-North relations, the South Korean authorities, while babbling about South- North mutual nuclear inspection, conspired to take hard-line measures against us, including the resumption of the Team Spirit exercise which has been temporarily halted. Then they raised a commotion by sending the prime minister's telephone message about it to us.

Also, the spokesman for the South side to the North-South high-level talks prattled in a message to the North that without a fundamental solution to the nuclear issue, no progress can be hoped for in South-North relations, that the North should give up efforts to form the Pan-National Alliance of Youth and Students [Pomchonghangyon] and to hold the pan-national meeting, and that resumption of the Team Spirit depends on what the North does about it.

This provocative commotion raised by the South Korean authorities, a naked expression of an intention to nullify the North-South agreement and the joint declaration on denuclearization, is an open violation of the points agreed upon and a premeditated crime intended to return North-South relations to the mistrust and confrontation that led to the adoption of the documents of agreement.

For the South Korean rulers to say that unless South-North mutual nuclear inspections are realized, they will resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise and take hard-line steps against the North is nonsensical and absurd in the true meaning of the words.

As is widely known, our government has stated on more than one occasion that we not only do not have nuclear weapons, but we do not produce them, nor do we have any intention or need to produce them.

It is unimaginable for us, who long for the country's peace and its peaceful reunification, to develop nuclear weapons capable of annihilating the consanguineous people and devastating the national territory.

The U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities preposterously provoked us, saying that we, who neither have nuclear weapons nor find it necessary to produce them, are developing nuclear weapons, and they have unilaterally put pressure on us to agree to nuclear inspections. Even when it became clear that after we signed the nuclear safeguards accord with the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] and that we were about to accept the international nuclear inspection at an early date after going through due process, such as a ratification and endorsement, they raised a commotion by heaping provocative words on us. They said that we were delaying the nuclear inspection or that we let the deadline for the nuclear inspection go by. Even now, when we are going through the process of an international nuclear inspection, they behave wickedly, babbling about a mandatory inspection by the UN Security Council and questioning the IAEA inspection.

This is impolite. It ignores the power and authority of the IAEA and insults its dignity. It is an insidious act, refusing the joint North-South efforts to thoroughly implement the joint declaration on denuclearization and attempting to put international pressure on us by turning the United Nations into a venue of confrontation between the North and South over the nuclear issue.

The mutual nuclear inspection between the North and South that the South Korean authorities babble about is now under discussion in the North-South Joint Nuclear Control Committee. It is at the United States' instigation that the South Korean authorities oppose our just call for a full, simultaneous inspection and maneuver to exclude the nuclear weapons and nuclear bases under the control of U.S. troops in South Korea from the list of targets for inspection. Rather, they insist on an inspection of equal numbers, special inspections [tukpyol sachal], and inspection of the general military bases [ilban kunsa kiji]. This is why the nuclear inspection between the North and South hit a snag in the initial stage of discussing the inspection regime.

In fact, the nuclear threat on the Korean peninsula was caused by the nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea by the United States. Thus, nuclear inspection is of no use, even if it is done 100 times, without the nuclear weapons and nuclear bases under control of U.S. troops, and it will only end up diluting the significance of the joint declaration on denuclearization.

Facts very clearly show that the South Korean authorities totally lack the will to denuclearize the Korean peninsula and that they are against verification of both denuclearization and the North-South simultaneous inspection.

The nuclear threat in Northeast Asia now comes from Japan as well. It is universal knowledge that Japan, while massively producing, importing, and stockpiling more plutonium than is necessary to transform itself into a nuclear power [haektaeguk] instantly, is rushing its preparations to become a military power [kunsataegukwha].

The South side, which had earlier rejected our patriotic proposal to deal jointly with the threat of Japan's arming itself with nuclear weapons, went so far as to draw Japan into a conspiracy against us, consanguinous people. This is a deplorable act that betrays the nation.

It is a deplorable act of betraying the nation that the South side, which had earlier rejected our patriotic proposal for the North and South jointly to cope with the threat of Japan's arming itself with nuclear weapons to conspire against us, the consanguineous people, even by drawing Japan into it.

As the stark facts prove, it is the United States and the South Korean authorities who are creating nuclear threats on the Korean peninsula and who are standing in the way of simultaneous North-South inspection.

Now, however, it is clear why they have provoked us over the nuclear issue, like a thief calling others thieves, which coincides with the beginning of the IAEA's inspection of our nuclear facilities, and why they took the road of worsening relations between the North and South again.

Driven by the fear that if the IAEA inspection of our nuclear facilities, which the South side has regarded as a sort of trump card, is settled uneventfully, every detail of its false commotion—the spreading in the international community of a fabricated public opinion that the North was developing nuclear weapons—will be laid bare, the South is trying to dilute the results of the international inspection and to fabricate an excuse for special inspection [tukpyol sachal] by taking the initiative.

In this way, the South side is now trying to justify the continued stationing of U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea and keep the nuclear war moves in place. The United States and the South Korean authorities have revealed this intention by stubbornly opposing inspection of the nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea and openly babbling that they will resume the Team Spirit joint military exercise, the preliminary war and nuclear test war, next year.

The provocative nuclear commotion raised by the U.S. imperialists and the South Korean authorities seeks to achieve a criminal goal of strengthening the tripartite collusion between the United States, Japan, and South Korea and to continue confrontation with us.

To date the United States and the Japanese authorities have babbled as if [North] Korea-U.S. [Chomi] and [North] Korea-Japan [Choil] relations have not improved because of the North's nuclear issue. However, feeling uneasy about the evaporation of the preconditions that have been made a stumbling block to improving Korea-U.S. and Korea-Japan relations as a result of the IAEA's nuclear inspection, they are trying to put the brakes on improving Korea-U.S. and Korea-Japan relations. Finding fault with us over the nuclear issue will worsen North-South relations, and they will thus achieve their goal.

Instead of implementing the agreement between the North and South, the South Korean authorities raised a commotion provoking us, saying they must maintain an alert posture against the North and other things. This is inconceivable without linking it to South Korea's internal situation.

With the presidential election expected to be held toward the end of this year, the South Korean youth, students, and people are now involved in a vigorous struggle to establish a democratic government. Their struggle is against the Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], which wants to remain in power.

Although the South Korean authorities currently in power—and dream of the DLP remaining there—are wielding the bayonet, the people's struggle for independence, democracy, and reunification is becoming more heated over time.

The South Korean authorities, who find themselves in trouble, try to justify their suppressive maneuvers by enforcing a hard-line policy toward the North to strain North-South relations as a way of bringing the crisis under control, to block the advent of the dissident democratic forces, and to create conditions favorable to the DLP's continued stay in power.

Because of the U.S., Japanese, and South Korean conspiracy to raise a new provocative commotion, peace on the Korean peninsula and North-South relations as a whole are now faced with a grave threat. A grave danger has been created for the exchange of aged people's home-visiting groups, the first gift to be offered to the nation on the upcoming 15 August as part of implementing the agreement.

Nevertheless, the splittist forces at home and abroad can never block the enormous march of the nation toward peace and reunification with any maneuvers.

The South Korean authorities should return to the road of reconciliation and unity and repudiate the anachronistic confrontational mentality; stop raising the provocative commotion about slanderous nuclear inspection, thus making North-South relations deteriorate by nullifying the historic North-South documents of agreement; accept the full-scale inspection of U.S. nuclear weapons and nuclear bases in South Korea in the spirit of the North-South documents of agreement; and make a decision to realize the denuclearization of the Korean peninsula.

The North and South have adopted and put into effect the agreement on reconciliation and nonaggression and the joint declaration on the denuclearization. Thus, the United States has no justification or keeping U.S. troops and nuclear weapons in South Korea.

Instead of babbling about the nonexistent nuclear threat coming from the North, the United States should remove and withdraw the nuclear weapons and nuclear bases from South Korea without delay and pull U.S. troops out of there.

North-South Red Cross Meeting Detailed

SK0606005292 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1200 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] A contact of North-South Red Cross working-level delegates was held in the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission in Panmunjom on 5 June.

The senior delegate for the North-South Red Cross working-level talks and two delegates were present from our side, and the senior delegate and two delegates were present from the South side. The contact was held behind closed doors.

After the contact, the head of our side gave a news briefing:

Discussed at today's contact were practical matters about implementing the agreement reached at the seventh round of North- South high level talks held last May on the simultaneous exchange of visiting groups of parents of separated families and art troupes in Pyongyang and Seoul on the occasion of 15 August.

Our side made a speech first, pointing out that the successful exchange of visiting groups of parents of separated families and art troupes, which was placed on the agenda after agreement was finally agreed at the seventh round of North-South high-level talks because our side took the initiative in making this proposal, is a constant desire of the whole nation and an earnest desire of the families and relatives scattered in the North and South.

Our side said that the working-level delegates from both sides must do whatever they can to realize the exchange of visiting groups of parents and art troupes in accordance with the expectation of the separated families and relatives. Our side also emphasized that the Red Cross officials from both sides must bear their heavy responsibilities. Our side then produced a draft agreement on the exchange of visiting groups of parents and art troupes.

By respecting the matters agreed upon by the North and South at the seventh round of high-level talks, our side's draft agreement considered the exchange of art troupes and home town visiting groups that had already been carried out and reflected the reality of the changed North-South relations. It specified various problems including the title of the visiting groups, their composition, and the time and place of the visits.

In conclusion, our side pointed out that ominous events have emerged recently from the South side. While kicking up antirepublic commotions about the nuclear inspection issue, it had been building artificial obstacles to improving North-South relations. Our side also said that the two sides' Red Cross organizations must pay close attention to the possibility that if the South Korean plot, woven in collusion with the United States and Japan, is carried out, the fate of all dialogue will be jeopardized, and prospects for the exchange of visiting groups of parents and art troupes will become dim.

Our side urged the South side to think twice and take urgent steps to let old man Yi In-mo, who is suffering and experiencing misfortune, come back home as early as possible, as all fellow countrymen, people all over the world, and the Red Cross demand.

The South side avoided answering this. They submitted a draft agreement on the exchange of visiting groups of parents and art troupes.

The draft agreements submitted by both sides confirmed common points and differences in provisions. Both sides agreed that after more study of the differences, discussions will be held at the next contact. It was decided that the next working-level delegates' contact will be held on 12 June.

Japan's SDF Bill Called 'Dangerous'

SK0706090792 Pyongyang KCNA in English 0808 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 7 (KCNA)—The U.N. Peacekeeping Operation Bill" envisaging the dispatch of the "Self-Defence Forces" [SDF] overseas was railroaded through the special committee of the House of Councillors of Japan on June 5, according to foreign press reports.

This means virtually providing a dangerous stepping-stone for the dispatch of "SDF" overseas which has been under restraint for 47 years since the Second World War. It proves that Japan's moves toward a military power and overseas aggression are being carried into practice in an undisguised way.

It is as clear as noonday what horrible consequences would come when the descendants of the "imperial army" which had inflicted untold calamities upon our country and other Asian nations have set out again on the road of overseas aggression by abusing the U.N. flag instead of the Japanese flag.

Our people and other Asian nations who still vividly remember the heinous criminal acts of aggression by the former Japanese "imperial army" will never allow any form of revival of Japanese militarism.

The Japanese authorities must clearly realize that if they dispatch "SDF" overseas despite strong protests and condemnations from the Japanese and other peoples the world over, they would be held wholly responsible for all the consequecces arising therefrom and have to face a stern judgement of history as well.

Kim Il-song, Chong-il Receive Yang Baibing

SK0506114192 Pyongyang Korean Central Broadcasting Network in Korean 1100 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il, supreme commander of the Korean People's Army [KPA], received the secretary general of the Central Military Commission of the Communist Party of China [CPC].

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il, member of the Political Bureau Presidium of the Workers Party of Korea [WPK] Central Committee, secretary of the party Central Committee, and supreme commander of the KPA, today received

Comrade Yang Baibing, member of the Secretariat of the CPC Central Committee, secretary general of the party Central Military Commission, and director of the General Political Department of the Chinese People's Liberation Army [CPLA], who is visiting our country.

On hand with Comrade Yang Baibing were Comrade He Qizong, deputy chief of the general staff, and Comrade Li Jinai, deputy director of the General Political Department, of the CPLA, and other delegates.

Comrade O Chin-u, member of the Political Bureau Presidium of the WPK Central Committee, member of the party Central Military Commission, minister of People's Armed Forces, and director of the General Political Department of the KPA; Comrade Choe Kwang, member of the WPK Central Committee Political Bureau, member of the party Central Military Commission and chief of the general staff of the KPA; and Comrade Yi Pong-won, member of the WPK Central Committee and general of the KPA, attended the meeting.

Zheng Yi, PRC ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to our country, was also on hand.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il held talks with Comrade Yang Baibing in a comradely and amicable atmosphere.

Comrade Yang Baibing presented gifts to the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song and Comrade Kim Chong-il.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song arranged a luncheon for Comrade Yang Baibing and other members.

North Pyongan Province Develops Textile Industry

SK0806151592 Pyongyang KCNA in English 1501 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Pyongyang June 8 (KCNA)—North Pyongan Province is one of the provinces developed in textile industry.

Situated in the northwestern region of Korea, it produces staple fibre, mixed-spun, woolen and silk fabrics with reed and vinalon fibre, wool and cocoon as raw materials.

Sinuiju, Kusong, Yongbyon, Palwon, Pakchon, Sakju and Tongnim are its major textile producers.

The Sinuiju and Kusong textile mills hold big proportions in the nation's textile output.

These modern mills mass-produce textiles of superior quality by using reed and vinalon fibre. Tens of millions of metres of fabrics annually produced by them are supplied to all parts of the country.

The Yongbyon, Pakchon and Palwon silk mills are noted producers for silk fabrics. Multi-coloured silk, satin, foulard, yaksandan, velvet and other silk fabrics of beautiful colors and designs produced there also find their way to foreign markets. Textiles produced by the Namsinuiju woolen textile mill and fabrics for industrial use, and quality knitwear are included in the provincial products.

The textile industry of the province holds 65 percent in its light industrial output.

South Korea

Russian Scud Import Allegations Denied

SK0506142592 Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean 5 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] (Washington/YONHAP) A U.S. weekly, U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT, in its 8 June edition reports that the ROK will import two units of the most modern Scud missile from Russia. This magazine writes that Russia's Scud missiles will likely be used as a model for the ROK's ambitious developing military industry. The weekly points out that these missiles, however, which amount to several million dollars, fall far short in meeting Russia's $2 billion debt to the ROK.

Meanwhile, in an article contributed to THE WASHINGTON TIMES on 4 June, Arnold Bakeman [name as transliterated], a researcher at the Hoover Institute, said that North Korea supplied 170 units of Scud "B" and "C" missiles to Iran last year and that Iran paid $3 billion to North Korea for this.

Defense Ministry's Denial

Concerning this report, an official in the Defense Ministry's Procurement and Development Bureau denied it, stating that "a plan to import missiles from Russia has not been reviewed at all."

This official noted that "when Omelichev, first deputy director of the CIS General Staff Department, visited the Military Industry Promotion Association while staying in the ROK recently, he said that it is a principle of the CIS not to sell ultramodern weapons, including missiles, other than conventional weapons, to other countries."

Yi Sang-ok on Nuclear Issue, Japanese Military

SK0806093292 Seoul YONHAP in English 0914 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 8 (OANA-YONHAP)—Japan is trying to increase its political clout based on its economic strength, but is restricted by its past and legal prohibitions against military activities, South Korean Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Monday.

Yi's comments suggest that Seoul expects Tokyo to make its intention clear on its overseas military activities even if the "peacekeeping operations (PKO) bill" is passed by the upper house of the Japanese parliament.

Addressing North Korea's suspected nuclear arms development, Yi said South Korea would continue to cooperate with allies and would ask China to use its influence to get North Korea to accept inter-Korean nuclear inspection.

Yi said Japan was seeking greater political influence based on its economic might by seeking PKO participation and a permanent seat on the U.N. Security Council.

"But there are restraints such as Japan's past with neighboring nations and laws prohibiting overseas military activities," the foreign minister said in a lecture at the graduate school of international studies at Korea University.

On solving North Korea's nuclear problem, Yi cited three principles—North Korea must accept both International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and inter-Korean inspection, South Korea leads the negotiations with other nations' support, and South Korea will seek support from allies and other countries like the Soviet Union [as received] and China.

Inter-Korean inspection must be conducted in June, he said.

Even if nuclear suspicions are resolved, the United States has further preconditions to improving ties with North Korea such as human rights improvements, denouncement of terrorism and progress in inter-Korean talks, Yi said.

Mentions Downgrading Ties With Taiwan

SK0806130192 Seoul YONHAP in English
1250 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 8 (OANA-YONHAP)—South Korea-Taiwan relations will have to be readjusted after Seoul normalizes ties with Beijing, Foreign Minister Yi Sang-ok said Monday.

"The relations with Taiwan must be readjusted, and there will be slight changes," Yi said, suggesting possible downgrading from the present full diplomatic recognition.

"But the government will seek to keep its close cooperation relations with Taiwan as much as possible," the foreign minister said.

The comments were made in a question and answer session following his lecture at the Graduate School of International Studies at Korea University.

South Korea lacks full ties with China, but the two countries have been working closer to diplomatic normalization. Taiwan proposes that South Korea recognize both Taiwan and China, but China is against it, according to officials here.

"International relations should be managed realistically with consideration of international laws and precedents of other countries," Yi said, suggesting Seoul may follow the example of downgrading Taiwanese embassy to a trade representative with consular functions.

Choe Kak-kyu, Miyazawa Discuss Economic Issues

SK0806090492 Seoul YONHAP in English
0557 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Tokyo, June 8 (YONHAP)—South Korean Deputy Prime Minister Choe Kak-kyu, in talks with Japanese Prime Minister Kiichi Miyazawa and other high-ranking officials, asked Tokyo on Monday to dismantle tariff and non-tariff barriers to Korean exports and to agree to the early establishment of a bilateral foundation for industrial cooperation.

Choe told Miyazawa that the foundation should be launched at an early date at the Japanese Government's initiative to put into practice an agreement Miyazawa reached with Korean president No Tae-u in January. Korea wants the foundation to have 200 million U.S. dollars to support the transfer of Japanese technology to Korea.

To redress Korea's snowballing deficit in trade with Japan, the access of Korean goods to the Japanese market should be expanded, Choe said.

Import tariffs on Korean-made textiles, footwear and leather products should be cut by half and customs, quarantine and other non-tariff barriers should be removed, he said.

Korean construction firms should be given more chances to participate in public works projects in Japan and small- and medium-sized firms in the two countries should be encouraged to cooperate with each other, he said.

Japanese officials told Choe, who also is Korea's economic planning minister, that the investment environment in Korea should be improved in order to promote technical exchange between private firms in the two countries.

They called for Korea's protection of intellectual property rights and the creation of a forum of Korean and Japanese business leaders.

The Japanese officials were passive on Korean demands for tariff reductions, saying such a matter should be dealt with in the broad framework of the Uruguay Round trade talks instead of in bilateral negotiations.

The two countries hold the second assistant minister-level meeting on trade and industrial technology cooperation in Tokyo on Thursday and Friday.

The meeting would discuss a detailed action plan for the No-Miyazawa agreement, but prospects for the plan to be worked out by the end of June as agreed earlier were bleak, Korean officials said.

Korea's trade deficit with Japan was 8.9 billion dollars in 1991 and its deficit with the world was 9.6 billion dollars. The imbalance has grown from 4 billion dollars in Japan's favor in 1989 to 5.9 billion dollars in 1990 and the total since Korea and Japan normalized ties in 1965 is 66 billion dollars.

Korea has consistently demanded Japan dismantle tariff and non-tariff barriers to imports, and transfer semiconductor and machinery technology, major areas where Korea is dependent on Japan.

Government Silent on Japan's PKO Bill

SK0706041492 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Jun 92 p 2

[Text] Despite all the outcry about Japan's so-called peacekeeping operation [PKO] bill by domestic political parties and news media, the Korean government eerily remains silent.

The Foreign Ministry is said to be planning to issue a statement mildly critical of the bill once it has cleared Japan's upper house.

Some critics suspect that Seoul would not irritate Tokyo which has set up a common front with Seoul and Washington to block North Korea's nuclear weapons program.

South Korea has been urging Japan not to normalize ties with North Korea until it clears the international community of doubts about its nuclear program.

Seoul's close ties with Washington may also be a factor behind the government's reticence. The United States has given its blessing to the PKO bill.

Government officials would say that Seoul cannot afford to get tough on the troops bill because of its good motives. They also insist that China seems less concerned about the controversial bill.

Last year the Foreign Ministry issued a statement critical of the Japanese government's attempt to send its troops overseas under U.N. auspices.

Japan's 'Resurgence of Militarism' Examined

SK0706072292 Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean 6 Jun 92 p 3

[Editorial: "The 'New Japanese Army' Is Coming"]

[Text] Japan's Self-Defense Forces are no longer that. By opening a legitimate road for sending its forces overseas, the Self-Defense Forces have changed into a 'new Japanese Army,' casting a dark shadow on the Asian continent.

Under the banner of peace, Japan is trying again to become a big military power and to achieve a resurgence of militarism. Regardless of strong opposition from public opinion at home and abroad, the Japanese Government and the Liberal Democratic Party [LDP] opened the way for the Self-Defense Forces to be sent abroad. This is creating worry that Japan's past ambition of achieving a Greater Asian Co-Prosperity Sphere might now be extended to world domination through military strength. This worries not only the ROK, but causes apprehension as well among other Asian countries who suffered and made sacrifices under the Japanese imperialists' colonial rule.

We can understand if Japan wants to contribute to resolving international affairs as befits an economic power. It is a natural duty and role for Japan, which regards the world as one economic bloc, to use its economic strength for conquering poverty and assisting the underdeveloped countries, as well as for the common value of man.

Whatever plausible excuse is used to send Japan's Self-Defense Forces overseas, it is still a matter of military strength. By advancing "Five Principles" that govern the sending of its Self-Defense Forces overseas, the Japanese Government and the LDP are trying to minimize the shock following the dispatch. For example, the "Five Principles" include the stipulations that prior approval must be given by the Diet to send its force overseas, that it will freeze the size of the main unit of the peacekeeping troops, and that weapons will be used only in unavoidable instances of self-defense.

However, this provision is only a clever way to pass the bill on sending its force overseas. In reality there are many cases when the main unit and the backup force of the Self-Defense Forces are not distinguished clearly. There is no change in the fact itself that the Self-Defense Force is dispatched to the peacekeeping troops, following military action.

Because the peacekeeping organization bill was passed without a revision to the constitution, which prohibits rearmament, and because it is now possible for Japan to send its military strength overseas, the spirit of the peace constitution is little more than a mere name.

We know why Japan is trying to send its Self-Defense Forces overseas 47 years after their founding. Actively participating in the resolution of disputes by calling it an international contribution, Japan is paving the way to strengthen its voice through military strength and to seize leadership of the Asian region.

Especially alarming is that while the Cold War system has collapsed and Asia's order is being reorganized, Japan is revealing its true nature by sending its forces overseas.

Japan has a force of 230,000, up-to-date weapons, and the capability of developing annihilating nuclear weapons. Therefore, its intention to become a big military power is Asia's new fear.

Japan must not fuel the strained situation among its neighboring countries by setting itself on fire with ambition to dominate the world militarily, but must contribute to peace by reflecting on its history and past mistakes. We must especially focus on Japan's plan to spend the enormous sum of 150 trillion won on its military over the next five years. We cannot tolerate Japan's ambition to become a big power by expanding its military strength.

Trade Deficit With Japan Decreasing

SK0706033792 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 7 Jun 92 p 8

[Text] Korea's trade deficit with Japan is visibly decreasing due to a sharp decline in imports of machinery for factory automation.

In parallel with its shrinking imports from Japan, Korea's exports to the neighboring country are dropping as well.

However, exports of machinery and high value-added products to Japan are steadily increasing against a wide marginal drop in shipments of labor-intensive products whose international price competitiveness has already weakened severely.

The increase in exports of high value-added products to Japan is seen as an outcome of the on-going reform of the Korean industries.

According to statistics from the Korea Trade Promotion Corporation (KOTRA), the nation's trade setback with Japan amounted to $2.750 billion on customs clearance basis in the first four months of this year.

The figure showed a 8.4 percent decrease from the corresponding period of last year.

It also accounted for 64 percent of the nation's global trade shortfall of $4.260 billion during the January-April period.

Last year as a whole, Korea experienced an all-time high trade setback of $8.760 billion with Japan, more than 90 percent of its largest-ever global shortfall of $9.655 billion.

In the first four months of the year, exports to Japan decreased 2.8 percent from the year before to $3.750 billion against at 5.3 percent drop in imports from it to $6.500 billion.

In particular, the trade deficit with Japan in January increased 10.5 percent over the same month of last year to $715 million. But the comparable shortfalls declined 4.3 percent in February, 6.6 percent in March and 25.3 percent in April.

Among the Japanese products whose imports in the January-April period went downward were machinery, electronics, electrics, steel and metals.

Imports of machinery from Japan especially plunged as much as 8 percent from the year before to $2.340 billion.

The sharp decrease in imports of Japanese machinery was mainly attributed to large Korean enterprises' completion of their facility automation.

The government's strict control on the supply of special foreign exchange loans to business concerns which import machinery from Japan is also cited as another major factor.

Last year, Korea's trade setback with Japan in machinery reached about $10 billion.

Despite the decrease in trade deficit with Japan in the first four months of the year, many business experts said that it is too early to predict the trend to continue in the days to come.

Noting that Japanese machinery makers are developing more sophisticated products to increase their global exports, they said that Korean enterprises will also be forced to purchase these goods, thereby widening the trade imbalance between Seoul and Tokyo.

Domestic Makers Hurt by Japanese 'Dumping'

SK0606043892 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 6 Jun 92 p 8

[By staff reporter Chae Hui-muk]

[Text] Domestic manufacturers have been suffering from dumping margin sales by Japanese companies of items which they have barely localized.

Officials of the Korea Foreign Trade Association (KFTA) said yesterday that Japanese makers have sharply cut the export prices of their products to Korea to keep their existing market share, timed with the localization of the products by domestic makers.

In particular, a few small- and medium-sized makers have gone bankrupt affected by dumping margin sales by Japanese firms although they had just succeeded in localization of products with huge investments, they claimed.

Before localization, Japanese firms exported their products to Korea at high prices, they added.

For example, Dongsung Semiconductor Co., which successfully developed a high-pressed diode, a core color television and microwave oven component, dishonored bills on April 16 upon starting sale of its products.

A KFTA official said that the bankruptcy of the Korean small-sized firm was due to 25 percent price cuts by Sankei and Fujitsu.

The official said that the Japanese makers are highly likely to increase the prices again if the local production of diodes is suspended.

In this connection, the association and Dongsung have asked the Finance Ministry and major creditor bank to help the firm normalize its operation through court management.

Lucky, Ltd. successfully developed a high-speed weaving cotton yarn and oil for textiles last March after 10 years of research and development.

But the Korean firm can hardly find markets and make both ends meet as Matsumoto and other Japanese makers have decreased export prices to Korean users from $3,000 to $2,300 per ton.

Other small-sized makers have also been experiencing a severe financial pinch due to under-cutting practices by Japanese makers in Korea although they have successfully developed a variety of items.

The items include glass for ladies' watches, spinnerets, crystallized glass for construction, high accuracy counting scales and water jet looms.

The KFTA official said that Japanese manufacturers producing the items have cut the export prices by 16.7-70 percent in the Korean market, disturbing the domestic makers.

The official said, "The government should guarantee domestic markets to Korean developers and the industry itself should file complaints with related authorities for relief measures."

He also recommended that large-sized manufacturers should utilize localized products taking a long-term view.

PRC-Flagged Ship Arrives at Inchon Port

SK0806035892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0303 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 8 (YONHAP)—A Chinese-flag ship chartered by Pan-Ocean Shipping Co. entered Inchon port with a cargo from Australia on June 3, a Pan-Ocean official said Monday.

Chinese registered ships entered Korean ports in the past only because of engine problems or fuel shortages due to an absence of diplomatic ties.

The 35,000-ton Ninghai of GTS Steam Inc., flying a Chinese flag, arrived on June 3 and the 25,000-ton Taicanghai of Qingdao Ocean was due on Wednesday with another cargo of Australian wheat, the official said.

China's decision to allow a Korean company to charter its vessels was a sign that the Chinese Government would open its shipping industry wider to South Korea, he said.

The Chinese Government had banned Korean firms from chartering Chinese ships unless they were re-registered in Panama.

The Ninghai and Taicanghai were 10 years old but the charter fees were lower than for Western ships, the official said.

Government May Repatriate Imprisoned Yi In-mo

SK0806014192 Seoul YONHAP in English 0101 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 8 (YONHAP)—South Korea may repatriate a North Korean journalist prior to reunions of separated family members in mid-August.

Yi In-mo, 76, was a North Korean correspondent during the Korean war and spent decades in South Korean prisons for refusing to change his allegiance after he was captured.

"North Korea has steadfastly demanded Yi's repatriation, and we in the government are reviewing his issue in a progressive manner in the hope such an action could lead to a more sincere posture of the North toward the crucial question of separated families," a government official said Sunday.

While accepting the South's offer for a reunion of separated family members at the inter-Korean prime ministerial talks in May in Seoul, North Korea strongly hoped the South would send Yi home before liberation day, Aug. 15, he said.

"If we do not repatriate Yi, North Korea is likely to send members of his family to the South as separated family members, which would somewhat adulterate the hometown visitors program," he said.

A final decision would be made through consultations among relevant government offices after the results of the International Atomic Energy Agency's inspection of North Korean nuclear facilities were known, he said.

Another government official said: "Currently there are pros and cons about Yi's repatriation, but we could deal with this issue affirmatively from a humanitarian point of view if North Korea were found to be sincere toward the nuclear and other crucial inter-Korean issues."

Editorial Berates DPRK Delays on Nuclear Issue

SK0706125292 Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean 6 Jun 92 p 2

[Editorial: "Premier Yon's Act of Passing the Buck"]

[Text] At a time when South-North relations are gradually turning into a stalemate due to North Korea's evasion of nuclear inspection, Premier Yon Hyong-muk sent a threatening telephone message to the South side, laying all the blame at the door of the South side. This is preposterous. What angers us more than anything else is that he threatened: "If the South side keeps kicking up a row over the nuclear issue, it may have an impact on the exchange of of elderly parents scheduled for 15 August."

Premier Yon asserted that North Korea is faithfully implementing the North-South Agreement, but South Korea has shown no will to implement it. He said although the nuclear inspection negotiations have not yet broken up, South Korea has caused a commotion over the nuclear issue without due cause in collusion with the United States and Japan.

It is clear, however, which of the two sides, South Korea and North Korea, is evading discussion on nuclear inspection and which side is avoiding nuclear inspection. In fact, if the South and North had implemented the

Joint Declaration on denuclearizing the Korean peninsula, signed and put into effect on 19 February, there is no need for the two sides to discuss for such a long time the procedures regarding nuclear inspection.

The South Korean side's proposal that the South and North should conduct when necessary mutual, special inspections [tukyol sachal] to build confidence and maintain peace since the limited nuclear inspections conducted by the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] alone are ineffective. This is nothing but common sense.

Nevertheless, even after it had agreed to the denuclearization declaration, North Korea has resorted to delay tactics such as arguing that "inspections by the IAEA will suffice," and stating "let us conduct a one-shot inspection of Yongbyon in the North and an inspection of all the U.S. military bases in the South based on the principle of simultaneously dissipating misgivings." They also said "let us work out an agreement on implementing inspection-related issues." North Korea is now ignoring the agreement reached at the seventh round of the South-North prime ministers' talks on working out an inspection regime by the end of May as well as to conduct inspection during June. North Korea is also still harboring sinister intentions as evidenced by an armed infiltration into the DMZ as well as an attempt to hold the Pan-National meeting to create chaos in the South.

It is natural for Prime Minister Chong Won-sik to send a telephone message to the North urging it to implement the agreement at an early date in response to the North's failure to implement the agreement and for spokesman Yi Tong-pok to say that "unless the mutual nuclear inspection is realized, South-North relations, including trade, will not be improved and the resumption of the suspended Team Spirit exercise depends on the North's implementation of nuclear inspections.

In particular, the United States has once again made it clear that the nuclear inspection is a precondition for improving its relations with North Korea. Japan also followed suit, saying that nuclear inspection is the basic requirement for establishing diplomatic relations with North Korea. There is nothing new in this.

We understand the serious economic situation North Korea finds itself in today because of its lack of foreign reserves and materials. The situation is becoming quite severe. At the heart of North Korea's difficulties is its strategy of desperately maintaining its system by threatening to produce and possess nuclear weapons. At the same time, it tries to improve relations with the United States and Japan and overcome its present difficulties by enlisting cooperation from South Korea.

However, to make a long story short, North Korea should realize that without complete nuclear inspections of the North, no country will be willing to offer North Korea economic cooperation, including loan grants. North Korea has no reason to be reluctant to do so. If North Korea "neither produces nor possesses nuclear weapons" as said by Kim Il-song, it should reveal itself to clearly show the "absence of nuclear weapons" and then embark upon the road of economic recovery.

In conclusion, we hope that North Korea's blackmail attempt to cancel the exchange of elderly parents on 15 August will not come to pass. To reunite the separated families is a humanitarian enterprise to help them vent deep-rooted national grudges. If North Korea lets the enterprise go up in thin air, we repeatedly stress that it will never be able to dodge the grievances and denunciations of the people.

Investments in DPRK Light Industry Encouraged

SK0806023392 Seoul YONHAP in English 0202 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 8 (YONHAP)—The government will encourage South Korean firms to invest in light industry in North Korea as it can enhance living conditions, a highly placed official said Monday.

Guidelines on investment in North Korea had been prepared through consultations among the National Unification Board, the Economic Planning Board, and the Finance and Trade-Industry Ministries, the official said.

According to the guidelines, financial support will be given to South Korean firms that participate in projects agreed between Seoul and Pyongyang.

The guidelines had been worked out on the assumption that an inter-Korean investment guarantee would be signed in the not distant future, setting terms of investor treatment, protection of investors' assets, and guarantee of remittance, the official said.

"Inter-Korean economic cooperation will be hindered by the nuclear issue for some time, but when the hindrance is removed, investment in North Korea will be positively promoted under the just-prepared guidelines," he said.

He said South Korean firms had faced difficulties in promoting joint ventures with North Korea in the absence of detailed guidelines.

During the first four months, inter-Korean trade topped 65.47 million U.S. dollars with South Korea's purchase of goods and materials from North Korea accounting for over 80 percent or 59.1 million dollars.

Two-way deals since 1988 amounted to 306.07 million dollars and the South's purchase from the North totaled 268.73 million dollars.

Major goods sold to Pyongyang were textile products, plastics, color television sets, and laundry soaps. Major South Korean purchases were zinc and gold ingots, herbs and agro-fisheries products.

Direct deals began last year. They included shipment of 5,000 tons of rice to North Korea by Cheonji Trading Co., and a contract signed between Lucky-Goldstar Corp. and North Korea for the swap of life commodities and 100,000 tons of North Korean coal, and one signed between Samsung Co. and North Korea for the importation of 70,000 tons of coal.

Chong Chu-yong Discusses Views on Economic Policy

SK0706042392 Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 7 Jun 92 pp 2, 5

[By staff reporter Choe Sang-hun]

[Text] There is always an understandable attraction to the notion of a superrich outsider riding in to clean up a corrupt political system.

But in the case of Chong Chu-yong, the tycoon-turned-presidential candidate, is the attraction serious or superficial?

The retired Hyundai conglomerate founder yesterday argued that his presidential bid is dictated by the new Zeitgeist shaping up in the world.

"What matters in this new era," Chong said in an interview with The Korea Herald, "is who can best run the economy and make his people affluent."

He said ideology has no meaning in this post-Cold War era.

Drawing parallels between himself and Ross Perot of the United States, the leader of the Unification National Party [UNP] said, "Throughout the world, when successful businessmen enter politics, they gain wide public support."

By tirelessly campaigning for economic reforms and with his plain-spoken attacks on "corrupt" domestic politics, Chong led his two-month-old party to a stunning debut in the March Assembly polls.

The election success was largely due to the people's desire to "send people like me up there and let them make contributions to the nation," he said.

But he became evasive when faced with an annoying question about his seemingly diminishing popularity.

He blasted the recent series of opinion surveys unfavorable to him as "manipulated by intelligence agencies."

He said he did not believe the surveys. For example, he alleged, the Korea Survey (Gallup) Polls predicted three days before the March 24 elections that his party would win just 5 percent of the vote. It actually gained 17 percent.

Chong radiated certainty when he talked about economic reforms that he vowed would earn the nation its proper place in the international community.

"Give me the power and I will turn the trade deficit into a $30 billion surplus within three years," he said.

How? He will inspire entrepreneurs by lowering interests rates. "I see no reason to have a trade deficit with countries like China, Southeast Asian countries and Australia as we have better qualified work forces," he said.

The main target will be the Japanese market. Lower interest rates will reduce production costs, which in turn means an increased international competitiveness, he said.

Chong contended that his economic policy would invite little or no protests from the United States or Japan.

He got his inspiration from Taiwan's economic success, and he clearly aspires to be the Korean version of Mexican President Salinas, whom he went out of his way to praise for ending bureaucratic corruption and controlling inflation.

"What's going on in Mexico demonstrates what a clean leader can do to a nation," he said. He plans to visit Mexico around September.

He said all commodities except rice should be open to foreign suppliers.

Chong claimed that the ruling Democratic Liberal Party will dissolve with the end of President No Tae-u's term early next year.

He contended that he would win more than 50 percent of the votes in the December presidential election.

"People thought No would make a better president than Kim Yong-sam and Kim Tae-chung. Then if No has plunged the nation into this miserable state, why should people vote for the two Kims?" he said.

In the 1987 presidential elections, the two Kims split the opposition vote and allowed the ruling party candidate No to win the presidency.

How is he going to run the government? He said that his slogan is "a small government and the powerful people."

By being thriftier in government spending, he said, he would cut taxes and bureaucracy.

He said his party will try to enact legislation which would outlaw all kinds of eavesdropping by government agents of any others in the new National Assembly.

During the March campaigning, the UNP alleged that government agents and police have spied on activities of its candidates.

The head office of Chong's party had already signs warning, "No government agents are allowed in."

If elected president, Chong said, overall management-labor relations would not deteriorate, dispelling the widespread concern that he is basically against the labor movement.

"As for myself, I will see to it that workers get higher pay," he said. Enterprises, he said, should try to work out labor relations on their own, not depend on the government.

Noting that the UNP got all parliamentary seats up for grabs in Ulsan City during the March elections, Chong insisted that the Hyundai workers have not turned their backs on the companies which they work for.

Chong brushed aside rumors that he might dispose of his massive Hyundai stocks to raise campaign funds. "I don't need that because I have already enough money on my hands."

Chong looks remarkably healthy for his age. In fact, he is an action junkie. He sleeps five hours a day, getting up at three in the morning.

He makes up for the "lost" sleep on Sundays. "I sleep a lot on Sunday."

Favors Repeal of National Security Law

SK0806052892 Seoul YONHAP in English 0506 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 8 (YONHAP)—Chong Chu-yong, executive chairman of the Unification National Party [UNP], called Monday for the National Security Law to be repealed, saying other laws were enough to check subversive activities and safeguard public peace.

Chong told a forum organized by the weekly SISA JOURNAL that the security law contradicted the spirit of the constitution.

"The National Security Law categorically outlaws the forming of a communist party, but believing in communism falls in the category of freedom of thought and is guaranteed under the basic law," he said.

Party spokesman Cho Sun-hwan said Chong also told the forum that since the constitution guarantees freedom of thought and assembly the "creation even of a communist party could not be prevented under this spirit of the basic law."

Chong, a candidate for president, said Japan had a Communist Party and it did no harm to the liberal democratic and market economy systems.

"But if individual communists or a communist party cause harm to a third person or to the state, they should, of course, be subject to the law," he said.

If he were elected president he would not seek arms reduction because "the North has nothing but armed forces and weapons," he said.

"If Kim Il-song wants to meet me before the presidential election, I will not meet him," Chong said.

Chong's remarks about allowing a communist party in South Korea sparked roars of protest from members of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP] and the Democratic Party.

"I believe people were stunned at the remarks," DLP spokesman Pak Hui-tae said. "We cannot but regard his utterance as a reckless statement that constitutes a frontal challenge to the nation's liberal democratic system and that profoundly affects the security of the nation."

Pak called it an irony of history that someone who had benefited from capitalism more than anybody else had made remarks of a kind more often heard from radical students.

Kim Tae-chung, head of the Democratic Party, said the remarks were unexpected.

"Legalization of a communist party is not possible under the present statutory system. The remarks are hardly proper in view of inter-Korean relations or the people's sentiments," Kim said.

Spokesman Cho said: "Chong simply meant to emphasize the principle of freedom of thought as well as that the usefulness and value of communism has already faded. However, I understand Chong has no intent of revoking his remarks."

Investigation of Remarks Under Way

SK0806125892 Seoul YONHAP in English 1230 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 8 (YONHAP)—An investigation is under way on Chong Chu-yong, executive chairman of the Unification National Party (UNP), for possible violation of the National Security Law for his remark that Communist Party should be allowed in South Korea, prosecution officials said Monday.

Pak Man at the Seoul District Prosecutor's Office is probing Chong's comments at a forum organized by a local weekly SISA journal earlier Monday, the officials said.

The prosecution plans to call in Chong and take legal measures against him if he violated the law, they said.

It will summon Chong's aides for questioning before calling in the UNP leader, they said.

Chong, a corporate tycoon-turned-politician, told the forum that believing in communism falls in the category of freedom of thought and is thus guaranteed under the basic law.

The National Security Law contradicts the spirit of the constitution, he said, calling for its abolition.

"Chong seems to have misinterpreted the constitution by basing his claim on the right to assemble, a principle that is subordinate to basic law and order of democracy," a prosecution official said.

"There is high likelihood that he violated the National Security Law and legal investigation is inevitable at this point, " he said.

Yi Chong-chan Indicates Readiness To Leave DLP

SK0806055492 Seoul YONHAP in English 0522 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Seoul, June 8 (YONHAP)—Yi Chong-chan, unsuccessful candidate for the presidential nomination, reaffirmed his intention to leave the ruling Democratic

Liberal Party [DLP] Monday, saying he would continue to hold dialogue with politicians who share his ideas.

Yi made the remark after returning to Seoul from a five-day visit to Kyongju, South Kyongsang Province, where he said he had the chance to meet many people.

"My talks with them confirmed what I said in Yusong, South Chungchong Province, on May 30," Yi said, referring to his statement that the time had come for the two Kims—Kim Yong-sam of the DLP and Kim Tae-chung of the main opposition Democratic Party—to retire to make way for young, fresh leaders like himself.

Yi indicated he was ready to leave the DLP by saying there was no room in the ruling party for members who held different political views from the mainstream. He hinted that he would form a new political party to run for president after leaving the DLP.

The DLP, meanwhile, was reportedly considering expelling the erstwhile candidate for the party's presidential nomination unless he apologized to President No Tae-u for actions deemed detrimental to the party.

Daewoo Chief Discusses Investment in Russia

SK0806033392 Seoul MAEIL KYONGJAE SINMUN in Korean 6 June 92 p 7

[Interview with Daewoo Group President Kim U-chung by reporter Kim Chong-hyon in Moscow on 5 June]

[Text] [Kim Chong-hyon] What are the prospects for economic cooperation and investment in Russia?

[Kim U-chung] Although the Russian economy is extremely troubled, I see an opportunity for our businesses to invest. Because Western business firms are showing reluctance to invest in Russia, the Russian Government shows signs of giving our businesses an assortment of favors.

[Kim Chong-hyon] We find that recently our firms' enthusiasm toward the CIS is cooling off.

[Kim U-chung] The problem is that our firms are trying to pioneer the overseas market based on the safety-first policy. The greater the risk, the greater the hope for investment. In the long run, we need to be more aggressive in investing.

[Kim Chong-hyon] In what direction is Daewoo going to invest in the CIS?

[Kim U-chung] I plan to establish a few joint venture plants, primarily ones that need a small amount of investment, and make them models for others. If a couple of these factories run well enough to set an example, we plan large-scale investment within 10 years.

[Kim Chong-hyon] What is your opinion on converting the CIS's munitions industry into a civilian industry?

[Kim U-chung] Such projects will be the best target for our firms to make inroads into the CIS.

Even a little reform of the existing facilities will not only enable them to produce diversified products, but also maximize their productivity.

[Kim Chong-hyon] What do you think about CIS market potential?

[Kim U-chung] The CIS market consists of 300 million people and is a region rich in natural resources.

Although its current political chaos is a stumbling block, I think that the CIS will be on the right track of capitalism within 10 years. In preparing for this, our businesses should push ahead with active economic cooperation with the CIS.

Taiwan Seeking Firms for Construction Projects

SK0606045892 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 6 Jun 92 p 8

[Text] It is highly probable that domestic constructors can participate in Republic of China construction projects during its six-year development plan (July, 1991-June, 1996).

The bright prospect has been analyzed by a nine-member private construction mission, headed by Hong Son-kil, president of the Overseas Construction Association of Korea (OCAK), who visited the island country on April 25-29.

An OCAK official accompanying the mission said that the ROC side strongly expressed its hope for the participation of Korean constructors in public projects and tangible results are expected in a few years if cooperative ties are made with Taiwanese firms.

During talks with related Taiwanese officials, the mission received impressions that the ROC government hopes for close friendly ties with Korea and feared widening trade deficit with Japan, the official said.

In particular, the ROC government hopes that Korea and other nations' constructors take part in the public projects as Japanese firms are feared to take a considerable number of orders amid worsening trade deficit, the official said.

Orders on seven out of 13 projects in the construction of the Taipei subway have already gone to Japanese businesses, he said, adding that the construction projects during the five-year plan period amounts to an estimated $303 billion.

The fact-finding mission requested the ROC government to rewrite classification regulations on constructors and cut red tape in regulations on employment of foreign workers. The official said that the mission obtained positive response to the request.

During the stay, the mission members visited major order placing bodies to study the construction of expressways, high-speed electric railroads and subways and discuss ways for efficient participation of Korean firms in the projects.

The public bodies Korean corporate missions visited include Taiwan Area National Expressway Engineering Bureau, Public Construction Supervisory Board, Provisional Engineering Office of High-speed Rail and Taiwan Highway Bureau.

The ROC officials recommended that Korean constructors participate in the projects in joint ventures with top-grade local firms.

The Korean mission also discussed mutual cooperation with Taiwanese state-run construction firms such as Ret-Ser Engineering Agency and BES Engineering Corp. The mission also consolidated cooperative footings with 15 private constructors in joint conference or individual negotiations, the official said.

Korean firms will be able to participate in the construction works of tunnels, long bridges and others needing special technology or engineering, the projects needing work-force of third countries and massive construction management, the official said.

The mission also found that it is necessary for domestic firms to select superior partners to make access to the Taiwanese public projects.

No Tae-u Appointments to Key Posts Criticized

SK0706031592 Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English 7 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] President No Tae-u's recent appointments of key post holders has been criticized for lacking principle.

Son Chu-hwan was named minister of information Friday just one month after he was "sacked" as No's senior secretary for political affairs.

No dismissed Son on May 6, calling him to take responsibility for the controversy over his positive role in rallying support for Kim Yong-sam as the presidential candidate of the ruling Democratic Liberal Party [DLP], allegedly passing "silent messages" from the President.

However, the dismissal was clearly no punitive measure against Son but a means to "soothe" Yi Chong-chan, Kim's opponent in the party's presidential race who challenged No to stay neutral.

Yi later boycotted the nomination convention and DLP executive chairman Kim was chosen as the party's standard-bearer for the December election. Son is a cousin of Kim's wife Son Myong-sun.

Son's appointment came as a surprise to many. His previous job was of the vice-ministerial level. A presidential spokesman said that President No thinks "highly of Son's abilities." He quoted the President as saying that he had never seen such a diligent worker as Son.

This case is just one of the "unprincipled" personnel administration actions of the Sixth Republic led by No, whose five-year single term ends next February.

It is easy to see why No's personnel management style has come under fire. Principles don't count; only personal relationships do.

Another example is the "comeback" of Lt. Gen. Cho Nam-pung, who was promoted to four-star general and named commander of the First Army last week. Cho was relieved of the command of the Defense Security Command two years ago when the military intelligence agency's surveillance of civilians was disclosed to the shock of the people.

Cho was reassigned as commander of the Army Education Command. Now he has been placed in the second most important position in the Army for his "leadership and operational ability."

Then defense minister Yi Sang-hun was also sacked. But he also made a comeback as president of the Korea Baseball Organization [KBO], the governing body of pro baseball here. A baseball team owner who is a leading businessman, argued that team owners should have the right to elect the KBO president. There was no reason to change the president as Yi's predecessor Rep. Yi Ung-hui had 18 months left in his term.

During the past four years and four months of the 6th Republic, there were more than a dozen Cabinet reshuffles, sometimes extensive and sometimes limited to a few portfolios.

As a result, no Cabinet minister has served for more than two years and the average life expectancy of a Cabinet post in No's administration is a year or so.

Prime Minister Addresses Memorial Service

SK0606032292 Seoul KBS-1 Radio Network in Korean 0120 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Speech by Prime Minister Chong Won-sik at a Memorial Day service at the National Cemetery—live]

[Text] On the occasion of this solemn Memorial Day, we are gathered at a national sacred place to pay tribute to the noble sacrifice of fallen patriotic martyrs, who gave their lives for our county and our fellow countrymen, and to uphold their will.

First of all, together with all fellow countrymen, paying tribute to a large number of fallen patriotic martyrs buried here and to other fallen patriotic heroes, I wholeheartedly pray for their peaceful repose.

At the same time, to persons of national merit, who are the mental foundation and good model for fellow countrymen, and to the bereaved family members who sacrificed their loving husbands and flesh and blood to the fatherland, I wholeheartedly extend thanks and respect.

Fellow countrymen:

On Memorial Day every year, with a spirit of piety, we cherish the noble sacrificial spirit of fallen patriotic martyrs, who recovered the lost fatherland and laid the foundation for freedom, peace, and prosperity and resolve anew to reward their noble sacrifice. It goes without saying that it is our firm will and stance to set up an advanced country on this land, in which democracy and prosperity bloom, and to achieve a reunified country by breaking through the tragedy of division.

In retrospect, since the Sixth Republic was inaugurated, we have generally established democratization over the past four years. We have constantly advanced to expedite national reunification. As a result, a mature consciousness of democratic citizens takes root in our society.

In addition, in North-South relations where antagonism and confrontation was repeated for nearly half a century, a great change has been taking place. Of course, we had to pay a dear price in the course of achieving democratization. The order of law and social discipline was lax and the foundation of the national economy had been shaken by radical labor disputes. That is, we suffered from not a few difficulties.

However, we endured such tribulations and difficulties. With the unanimous efforts of all social strata, our society has recovered a firm foundation.

Fellow countrymen:

At a time when stability is urgently necessary, above all else, a series of incidents threatening social stability has recently taken place. This gave us a great shock. We cannot but be deeply concerned about these incidents.

Flags of the People's Republic flew on some campuses, though not on very many, and radical university students attacked police stations, took away weapons, and kidnapped policemen. In this way, violence that poses a challenge to the establishment is now again emerging.

These illegal acts and acts of violence that pose a head-on challenge to law and order cannot be tolerated for any reason or under any pretext. The government will resolutely handle them to defend our establishment and social stability no matter the degree of sacrifice.

As you well know, last February, the North and South effectuated the North-South basic agreement and the joint denuclearization declaration for the first time in 47 years since the division. In this way, the North and South have built a basic framework that would bring to an end the era of mistrust and confrontation and open an era of reconciliation and cooperation. This historic fruition provided more hope and higher expectations for reunification to 70 million fellow countrymen who have lived during the tragic era of division.

However, when we observe North Korea's recent attitude, we must seriously question if it really wants reconciliation of the people and the fatherland's reunification.

In particular, North Korea recently infiltrated armed soldiers into our side's area of the DMZ along the armistice line and did not provide rules for North-South mutual nuclear inspection. In this way, North Korea is turning a blind eye to the spirit and substance of the North-South basic agreement and the joint denuclearization declaration. This is truly regrettable. Given this attitude by the North Korean side, I cannot help but say that prospects for North-South relations are not that optimistic. As in the saying that ice is most dangerous when it begins to melt, we should not slacken our vigilance even for a moment until genuine peace comes to the Korean peninsula. At this solemn moment, I again express this firm resolve of ours to the fallen patriots who are interred in this sacred site of our fellow countrymen.

We should not commit the foolish act of taking off our coats in anticipation of the spring which has not yet come.

My dear fellow countrymen! Our country is at a very important turning point. We should without fail build a reunified country that brims with democracy and prosperity and is devoid of the danger of war. I firmly believe this would repay for their sacred devotion the numerous fallen patriots who sacrificed themselves to liberate and defend the fatherland.

On this meaningful Memorial Day, let us all pledge ourselves to build an honorable and proud country after adopting the fallen patriots' high loyalty and spirit of defending the fatherland as guidelines for our actions. Thank you.

Brunei, Malaysia & Singapore

Malaysia

New Rules for Singapore Military Flights Set

BK0506031692 Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 3 Jun 92 p 1

[By S. Jayakrishnan]

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Tues. [2 Jun]—Military jets taking off from Singapore would have to make a steep climb under a new ruling approved by the Government, Defence Minister Datuk Sri Najib Tun Abdul Razak said today.

The Government would also regulate the frequency of military flights from the republic's Paya Lebar airbase.

The steep climb would enable the jets to attain a higher altitude and a cruising speed sooner and take them away from land in a shorter time.

It would also reduce noise pollution and risk to life and property in the event of a crash which would then be over the seas.

He was speaking to reporters after presenting 800 boxes of used clothes for the Rohingya refugees in Myanmar [Burma] to the Malaysian Red Crescent Society at the Defence Ministry here.

Over the past 24 years, 11 foreign military aircraft had crashed in Johor, some near populated areas.

Of this number, eight were Singapore Air Force Jets, two American fighters and one Royal Australian Air Force aircraft.

Najib said Singapore which had been informed was looking into the operational procedures.

He hoped to get the new rules put into effect as soon as possible.

He did not want to disclose details of the altitude and flight frequency rulings as Singapore might consider it as against their defence interests.

However, he said what was being proposed would ensure any aircraft having difficulties would crash at sea rather than on land.

The republic had indicated it would be receptive to any change on the use of Johor airspace for military jets, whether from its own air force or that of foreign aircraft such as American jets, flying out from the Paya Lebar air base.

Najib was commenting on the call by Johor State Secretary Datuk Abdul Rahim Ramli to expedite changes to the flight routes of military jets from the republic.

Rahim's call came in the wake of the second crash involving a United States Marine Corps F/A-18 Hornet in hilly terrain in Tanjung Kelesa, near Kota Tinggi, last Friday.

Najib said the decision to amend the rules was made prior to the F/A-18 Hornet fighter jet crash.

He said the aircraft was using the commercial flight path and not the route reserved for military jets over Johor when it crashed.

"We cannot stop military aircraft from using international airspace. Anyway, the accident was rather unfortunate... certainly nobody wanted the aircraft to crash," he added.

Singapore

South African President Arrives for Visit

Comments on Talks, Aims of Visit

MB0706181092 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1651 GMT 7 Jun 92

[By Ben MacLennan]

[Text] Singapore June 7 SAPA—South African State President F.W. de Klerk arrived at Singapore's Changi Airport on Sunday [7 June] to 96 percent humidity and a warm welcome from the country seen as South Africa's future gateway to Southeast Asia.

But in a briefing at the end of a day of meetings with senior figures in the Singapore Government, Mr de Klerk said he had not come looking for any prizes.

"That is not our attitude, our style. We are engaged in making an investment in diplomatic and personal relations."

The pocket-dynamo nation of 2.7 million people is the last stop on a three-nation tour which has already taken Mr de Klerk to Russia and Japan.

Sunday's programme included just over an hour of talks with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong, lunch with figurehead President Wee Kim Wee, visits to a housing project and the Singapore Botanic Gardens, and an evening banquet hosted by the prime minister in the ballroom of the legendary Raffles Hotel.

The talks and lunch took place in the official Istana, or palace, a complex of pillared white buldings set in rolling parkland dotted with palms and boasting its own golf course.

The Singaporean prime minister paid a private visit to South Africa in October after the Harare conference of the Commowealth heads of government.

Since then Singapore and South Africa have concluded arrangements to establish relations at consul-general level.

The consulates should be functioning by August.

Mr de Klerk said Sunday's talks with the prime minister were "meaningful and very friendly".

He said Singapore could not develop much more within its boundaries: if it wanted to expand its economy, it would have to import labour for which it had no room, or play an international role.

It was clear that the country wanted to become the Switzerland of the Southeast Asian region, Mr de Klerk said.

"This makes Singapore an exceptionally important country to South Africa. It is a powerful economy...It's logical for us to include it in our list of priorities for expansion of trade as well as inflow of investments to South Africa in new manufacturing capacity that will create jobs."

Mr de Klerk said the heads of state of Russia, Japan and Singapore had all shown unconditional acceptance of the key role South Africa had to play in southern Africa.

Mr de Klerk flies back to South Africa on Monday afternoon [8 June] after an early-morning round of golf with the prime minister.

He will arrive at Jan Smuts Airport at 6.30pm [1630 GMT] South African time.

'Impressed' With Country's Role

MB0706180892 Johannesburg South African Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Because of its leading role in Southeast Asia, Singapore would enjoy high priority in South African foreign relations as an investor and importer of South African products.

After talks with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and other government leaders, President F.W. de Klerk said he had been impressed by their insight into South and southern Africa. He said Singapore's intention of becoming the Switzerland of Southeast Asia, would make an international role player of that country. Singapore was also an influential member of the Commonwealth.

Mr. de Klerk concludes his foreign visit, which included Russia and Japan, tomorrow, and is expected back in South Africa tomorrow evening.

Cambodia

UN Soldiers Clash With Khmer Rouge; 21 Killed

BK0706143392 Bangkok Army Television Channel 5 in Thai 1230 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] A helicopter of the UN forces, whose mission is the reconstruction of Cambodia, made an emergency landing at the sports stadium in Chanthaburi Province. The helicopter brought three UN soldiers, wounded from a clash with Khmer Rouge troops, for treatment at Taksin Hospital in Chanthaburi. The three wounded soldiers are (Timas Wong) from Malaysia, and (Casuhumi Mohamed) and (Kaipi Ahmed) from Tunisia. They suffered serious injuries on their arms and bodies from bullets and shrapnel.

According to a report by UNTAC Unit Commander Colonel (Ara Rado), the UN soldiers were working on mine-clearing and reconstruction of the areas in Battambang and Sisophon on the morning of 7 June [as heard] when they were attacked by a group of about 200 Khmer Rouge soldiers, who opened fire on them using light and heavy weapons. A clash took place and lasted for about 40 minutes, after which the Khmer Rouge pulled back. After combing the area, it was found that a total of 21 UNTAC soldiers were killed. The wounded were sent to various hospitals for treatment—nine wounded UN soldiers were sent to the hospital in Prachin Buri Province, an unknown number to the hospital in Phnom Penh, and three to Taksin Hospital in Chanthaburi Province. The Khmer Rouge troops suffered about a 100 killed and a number wounded.

SNC Meeting Discusses Paris Agreement 5 June

Sihanouk, Akashi, Others Attend

BK0506132892 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1200 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] The Supreme National Council of Cambodia [SNC] held its 11th meeting in the august presence of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state, father of the Cambodian nation, and chairman of the SNC, at the Khemarin Palace at 0900 on 5 June. Attending the meeting were SNC members, including His Excellency [H.E.] Dit Munti, minister of information and press; H.E. Hor Namhong, minister of foreign affairs; H.E. Hun Sen, chairman of the Council of Ministers; H.E. Ieng Muli, representative of the Khmer People's National Liberation Front; H.E. Im Chhunlim, minister of education; H.E Khieu Samphan, representative of the Democratic Kampuchea faction; HRH Prince Norodom Ranariddh, chairman of the FUNCINPEC [National United Front for an Independent, Neutral, Peaceful, and Cooperative Cambodia] Party; and H.E. General Tie Banh, minister of national defense. H.E. Yasushi Akashi, head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC]; H.E. Gen. John Sanderson, military commander of UNTAC; and Their Excellencies the ambassadors of friendly countries accredited to Cambodia, including the five powers, Japan, Indonesia, Korea, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, Malaysia, Germany, Poland, Cuba, and New Zealand, were present. Members of the SNC Secretariat and officials and personalities of the State of Cambodia also attended the meeting.

Khieu Samphan Gives Address

BK0706060092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Address by Khieu Samphan, member of the Supreme National Council and head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea, at the Supreme National Council's meeting on 5 June at Khemarin Palace—read by announcer]

[Text] The Paris agreement dated 23 October 1991 is an agreement for a comprehensive political solution to the Cambodian problem. It must be implemented in all aspects both military and civilian. In this:

1. It is imperative to implement the article regarding the supervision of the total withdrawal of foreign forces, that is all categories of Vietnamese forces, from Cambodia and their non-return to Cambodia.

2. It is imperative to implement the article regarding the Supreme National Council [SNC] being the legitimate body and unique source of power in Cambodia.

These two key points are of vital significance for achieving the goals of the agreement, that is to restore Cambodia's peace and independence and to bring about national reconciliation and respect for the Cambodian people's right to self-determination.

First: It is imperative to implement the articles specifying the supervision of the total withdrawal of foreign forces, that is all categories of Vietnamese forces and military advisers and personnel as well as all their arms, ammunition, and war materiel, from Cambodia and on their non-return to Cambodia, thus resolving the root cause of the Cambodian problem which is the problem of the Vietnamese aggression and occupation of Cambodia.

Through comprehensive bitter experiences drawn from Cambodia's relations with Vietnam, particularly during the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia over the past 14 years, and through the factual situation in which the Vietnamese are launching offensives against us on the battlefield, we cannot believe in the Vietnamese who announced that they had already withdrawn all their forces from Cambodia. The presence of Vietnamese forces in Cambodia is not a fabrication by the Party of Democratic Kampuchea [DK]. The presence of Vietnamese forces in Cambodia is a concern of all Cambodian people both inside and outside the country.

All persons who attended the recent national congress of His Excellency [H.E.] Son Sann's Khmer People's National Liberation Front [KPNLF] must have been well aware of the Cambodian nation's concern because various delegates had all reported on the Vietnamese presence in Cambodia, that is, Vietnamese disguising themselves as Cambodian civilians and as puppet soldiers.

Second: The second key article of the Paris agreement stipulates that the SNC is the legitimate organization and unique source of power during the transitional period.

This second key essence is inseparable from the first key essence. This second key essence fortifies the supervision of the total withdrawal of foreign forces, that is Vietnamese forces, from Cambodia and their non-return.

The term—the SNC is the legitimate organization and unique source of power in Cambodia—means clearly that there are no other legitimate state authorities nor other sources of power aside from the SNC.

The Cambodian National Government [CNG] of the Cambodian national resistance forces has strictly abided by the Paris agreement. This is why the CNG immediately ended its activities on 23 October 1991, the day the Paris agreement was signed.

On the contrary, seven months have elapsed since the signing of the Paris agreement, but one still sees the so-called State of Cambodia [SOC] continuing its activities and so-called honorary president Heng Samrin, acting president Chea Sim, Prime Minister Hun Sen, and this and that minister continuing their activities and even signing agreements that affect the fate and future of Cambodia.

As for the SNC empowered by the Paris agreement as the legitimate body and sole source of power in Cambodia, until now it has had no role except to serve as a screen to conceal the activities of the puppet regime—an illegal regime installed in Cambodia by the Vietnamese aggressors and still unrecognized by the international community.

The problem is: Some countries have contacted this illegal puppet regime which has used all kinds of pretexts in order to refuse to give the SNC sufficient right, power, and measures to fulfill its tasks in line with the Paris agreement and the fervent request of the Cambodian nation and people currently living both inside and outside the country.

The Paris agreement clearly stipulates that the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] and the SNC shall discuss and closely cooperate in implementing all articles and all aspects of the agreement during the transitional period. UNTAC and the SNC shall jointly administer state power in Cambodia during the transitional period. The Paris agreement cannot be implemented just by UNTAC alone without the SNC or the SNC alone without UNTAC, that is by one body in the absence of the other. In such a case, there can be no free, democratic, and fair general elections.

UNTAC cannot cooperate with the SNC if the latter does not have actual right and power. Moreover, if the SNC is not given sufficient right, power, means, and a chance to cooperate with the so-called SOC for whatever reason, it clearly means that the SNC is prevented from cooperating with UNTAC and from taking part in verifying the total withdrawal of the Vietnamese aggressors from Cambodia. In such a case, there can be no mutual trust nor real national reconciliation.

I would like to take this opportunity to reaffirm that the DK and the entire Cambodian nation and people want so much to achieve national reconciliation and have strived and will continue to strive to achieve this national reconciliation. This national reconciliation is a vital issue for the beloved motherland and for the Cambodian people who have long suffered due to the Vietnamese aggression and occupation of Cambodia. But, national reconciliation is possible only when the four Cambodian factions participate in the SNC and jointly manage state affairs during the transitional period. However, we cannot accept the maintaining of the so-called prime minister or ministers of the Vietnamese-installed regime because their continued presence runs counter to the Paris agreement.

At present, as the members of the patriotic resistance forces against the Vietnamese aggression and occupation of Cambodia, we have made immense sacrifices and have the will to make all possible efforts for the survival of the Cambodian nation. With this will, all members of the CNG who are currently members of the SNC willingly sacrificed their posts and duties in the CNG. But members of the Phnom Penh faction have continued to maintain their posts and duties in the illegitimate regime. Such a case is tantamount to forcing the Cambodian nation and people as well as the world community to accept the Vietnamese aggression as a fait accompli. This runs totally counter to the Paris agreement.

Esteemed prince: The 23 October 1991 Paris agreement is the outcome of many rounds of difficult and complex negotiations. We are convinced that this agreement might bring peace and independence back to Cambodia and lead toward a national reconciliation among all Cambodians. But, it is imperative to implement this agreement correctly and thoroughly and these two key essences must be implemented with priority. These two key essences have not yet been implemented substantially. On the contrary, other points of lower priority than these two key essences have been implemented with great effort.

Whenever the DK asked for the implementation of the above-mentioned two key essences, they would accuse it of barring the peace process. Such an act only encourages the Vietnamese to continue opposing the Paris agreement and the Vietnamese and Phnom Penh forces to gather up and launch attacks against the Cambodian national resistance forces, particularly the DK forces. Whenever the Vietnamese and puppet forces violated the cease-fire accord and launched operations to seize the DK zone and liberated villages, no one dared utter a word. But whenever the DK side launched an offensive to drive the aggressors back to their zone, they clamored that the DK side violated the cease-fire. Thus, the aggressors become the faultless and can oppose the agreement at will. Moreover, the aggressors are allowed to continue their criminal acts freely.

As for the DK, the victim of the aggression and a participant in the 14-year struggle to liberate the country and people, and which has asked only for the correct implementation of the agreement, has had all kinds of accusations raised against it. It was even accused of not cooperating with UNTAC. When the DK asked for concrete measures so that the SNC could play its role as the legitimate body and unique source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period, they accused the DK of hindering the implementation of the Paris agreement. Moreover, they often had contacts with and welcomed the Phnom Penh faction's prime minister, ministers, or chiefs of the Phnom Penh regime, and gave or prepared plans to give aid to the Phnom Penh regime. All these constitute encouragement for this illegal regime to oppose the Paris agreement.

Isn't this matter of having contacts, intentionally or unintentionally, with these puppets a stumbling block to the implementation of the Paris agreement?

If the key essences of the Paris agreement are not implemented first, then:

1. The Vietnamese forces will continue to stay in Cambodia and Vietnam will send fresh troops to Cambodia at will.

2. The Phnom Penh regime will continue to manage Cambodia's state affairs. In other words, Vietnam will continue to occupy Cambodia.

3. There can be no neutral political atmosphere, no free, democratic, and fair election, no national reconciliation, nor an independent and peaceful Cambodia.

4. The Cambodian people will certainly face the same miserable fate as those in Kampuchea Kraom which became South Vietnam, and lose their nation.

All these problems do not involve the direct interests of the DK. They are the problems involving the fate of the Cambodian nation to which all Cambodian people everywhere, male and female alike, have always focused their attention. They are problems that involve the survival of the Cambodian nation and people and the Cambodian race itself.

On behalf of the DK, I would like to reaffirm once again that we continue to stand firm on the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, its spirit and its essences. This means that:

First: All Vietnamese forces must withdraw from Cambodia under the supervision of UNTAC and the four Cambodian factions currently in the SNC.

Second: The SNC must have sufficient rights, power, and means for carrying out its role as the legitimate and unique source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period. Only the SNC and UNTAC should jointly control and manage state power in Cambodia during the transitional period.

Third: The armed forces of the four Cambodian factions must be disarmed and dissolved.

Only after the Paris agreement is implemented correctly and impartially, will Cambodia regain peace, security, and independence and the Cambodian people have sufficient means for defending and rebuilding Cambodia through a spirit of national reconciliation in a liberal democratic system and enjoy all rights and freedoms.

In conclusion, we would like to stress that if the two key essences of the agreement are implemented, we would certainly undertake to respect and observe 13 June 1992 as the starting day of the second phase of the cease-fire. This is because the remaining problems both military and civilian, including the 12 points of H.E. Akashi, can certainly be resolved quickly.

I would like once again to stress that we continue to give active and sincere cooperation to UNTAC in implementing the Paris agreement correctly and impartially.

Thank you.

Press Communique Issued

BK0606151392 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 1300 GMT 6 June 92

["Press Communique of the Supreme National Council's Meeting on 5 June;" read by announcer]

[Text] At 0900 on 5 June at Khemarin Palace, the Supreme National Council [SNC] met under the august chairmanship of His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and SNC chairman, with the participation of Mr. Akashi, special envoy for Cambodia of the UN secretary general. Also present were the representatives of the five UN Security Council [UNSC] permanent members; Indonesia, cochairman of the Paris conference on Cambodia; and a number of observers.

1. The states of the preparations by all parties for the implementation of phase two of the cease-fire: Statements were presented by HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk, Mr. Akashi, Mr. Khieu Samphan, Mr. Hun Sen, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, Mr. Ieng Muli, as well as the representatives of the UNSC permanent members and the cochairmen of the Paris conference on Cambodia.

HRH Prince Norodom Sihanouk reported on the results of a meeting among the Cambodian parties on 4 June at which efforts were made to soften the attitude of a certain party but to no avail.

Mr. Akashi pointed out that, despite repeated appeals, that party had not taken any necessary measures to implement the 12 steps needed to begin the second phase.

Mr. Khieu Samphan said if key aspects of the Paris accord on the verification of all foreign forces from Cambodia and their non-return and on the authority of the SNC, which is a unique legitimate body and source of authority in Cambodia, are implemented, phase two will begin on 13 June as planned.

Mr. Akashi stated that there is no order of priority stipulated in the Paris accord and all cases should be treated on equal footing. Moreover, the actual role of the SNC specified in the accord is being implemented according to Article 6 of the accord and Section b, Chapter 6, Annex 1.

On the allegation concerning the presence of foreign forces, Mr. Akashi said the UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] intends to conduct an investigation into the accusation and for this objective, the UNTAC has set up a mobile military investigation team which has the right to move freely. As no answer was given by that party, but with strong support for the UNTAC's operation from the other three parties, the representatives of the five permanent members of the UNSC, the cochairmen of the Paris conference, and other countries concerned, Mr. Akashi proposed that phase two should be started, as the content of that phase requires veracity in conformity with the current situation. Mr. Akashi added that he would present a report to the UN secretary general and would ask the latter to convene the UNSC in order to examine the situation.

2. Miscellaneous issues: none.

The next SNC meeting will take place at 0900 on 10 June.

Khieu Samphan Explains Stances to Sihanouk

BK0606054192 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Letter from Khieu Samphan to Prince Norodom Sihanouk dated 3 June—read by announcer]

[Text] Respectfully to His Royal Highness Prince Norodom Sihanouk, head of state and chairman of the Supreme National Council [SNC] of Cambodia, the Royal Palace, Phnom Penh.

Your Esteemed Highness:

I. We would like to express our profound gratitude for the magnificent message dated 1 June 1992 of your highness, the head of state and chairman of the SNC.

As a patriot, you have constantly been concerned about the interests of the nation and people and have sacrificed your life for the past more than 50 years for the noble interests of the nation and people.

As for all of us, we have always respected, loved, and stayed on your side, particularly in the current circumstances when our nation and people are being victimized by the Vietnamese war of aggression and occupation of Cambodia, which requires all of us to rally our national forces for national liberation to enable our country to achieve peace with genuine independence and territorial integrity and the Cambodian people to exist as a free nation and avoid facing the same fate as the former Kampuchea Kraom.

II. On this occasion, we would like to inform your esteemed highness about some facts as follows:

1. The 23 October 1991 Paris agreement has the following important points:

A. All Vietnamese must withdraw from Cambodia under the supervision of the UN peacekeeping force and the four Cambodian factions.

B. The SNC is the legitimate body and unique source of authority in Cambodia during the transitional period. In the quadripartite SNC, only when there are four Cambodian factions can there be national reconciliation and national concord.

C. The armed forces of the four Cambodian factions must be disarmed and demobilized.

D. The UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] and the SNC are empowered to hold discussions on and administer Cambodian state power during the transitional period.

Only after the above-mentioned important points are implemented can there be a neutral political atmosphere for arranging a free, democratic, correct, and fair election.

Only by correctly and impartially implementing the agreement can Cambodia achieve independence and peace and the Cambodian people have the full right to self-determination and sufficient conditions for defending and rebuilding Cambodia in an atmosphere of national reconciliation, concord, and unity.

2. However, the actual situation prevailing since the signing of the Paris agreement on 23 October 1991 is as follows:

A. There has been no concrete supervision on the total withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from Cambodia.

B. The regime installed by the Vietnamese through their aggression has continued to rule Cambodia through so-called Honorary President Heng Samrin, President Chea Sim, Prime Minister Hun Sen, and Foreign Minister Hor Namhong. These persons have continued to control Cambodia despite the fact that the Paris agreement has been in effect for seven months now.

This is why the SNC has been unable to play its role as Cambodia's unique source of power during the transitional period.

The forces of the Vietnamese and Phnom Penh faction have continued their activities and launched large- and medium-scale military operations in various areas in Cambodia throughout the 1991-92 dry season in order to eliminate the national resistance forces, and particularly to smash Democratic Kampuchea.

If this situation continues:

1. The Vietnamese forces presently in Cambodia will remain there and new ones will come.

2. If this is the case, the Vietnamese-installed Phnom Penh regime will continue to control and administer Cambodia.

3. And if that happens, the nearly two million Vietnamese immigrants will stay on and more of them will be sent to Cambodia one or two million at a time until their numbers make up one-eighth, two-eighths, three-eighths, four-eighths, and five-eighths of the Cambodian population. In such a case, Cambodia and the Cambodian people will be Vietnamized through Vietnam's strategy of annexing Cambodia and the Cambodian people.

We believe that the Western superpowers will not be able to prevent this development if the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement is not implemented in its entirety. In such a case, automatically there will be no neutral political atmosphere nor free, democratic, correct, and fair election. If that is the case, it is useless to try to achieve national reconciliation and concord. There will be no chance to build an independent and peaceful Cambodia.

At the same time, the efforts made by the Cambodian nation, people, and political leaders to settle the problems of Vietnamese immigrants and the land and sea border, which has been nibbled at by the Vietnamese through the treaties and agreements they signed with the Phnom Penh regime, will automatically become futile.

III. For this reason, all of us would like to ask your highness to please understand these reasons, which are vital to the entire nation, people, and race.

With heartfelt sincerity, we would like to inform your highness as well as the people in the countryside and Phnom Penh and the Cambodians living abroad that this is not a problem of Democratic Kampuchea. It does not mean that Democratic Kampuchea thinks only of its own interests. It is a matter of life and death for the entire Cambodian nation, people, and race. This means that if the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement is not implemented correctly in its entirety, the Cambodian nation, people, and race will automatically turn into a second Kampuchea Kraom. No Western superpowers can replace the Vietnamese in controlling Cambodia

We understand that all of us want the Western superpowers to help resolve and put an end to the Vietnamese war of aggression within the framework of the Paris agreement, within the framework of a liberal democracy in a genuinely independent and peaceful Cambodia.

Based on the above reasons, we would like to reaffirm that:

1. We stand firm on the Paris agreement dated 23 October 1991 in both its spirit and essence.

2. We are happy to definitely and correctly cooperate with the UNTAC by basing our stances on the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement.

3. We stand firm towards the SNC in line with the real essence of the Paris agreement, which clearly stipulates that the SNC is the legitimate body and unique source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period.

4. We absolutely stand firm on a liberal democratic system in all aspects and all domains, including respect for human rights.

The party of Democratic Kampuchea has no desire to seize any power whatsoever. Even if the party of Democratic Kampuchea is given duties and a role in the future government, it will just be an ordinary good citizen of the Cambodian nation and join in defending and building the country within the great national union in helping defend the Cambodian nation and race.

This is a manifestation of our most sincere hearts to your highness in these historic circumstances to salvage and protect the Cambodian nation and race.

Please, your highness, accept our deepest feelings of respect and love.

[Dated] 3 June 1992

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, member of the SNC and head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea

Khieu Samphan Sends Letter to Butrus-Ghali

BK0806030992 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 7 Jun 92

["5 June letter from His Excellency Khieu Samphan, member of the Supreme National Council and head of the party of Democratic Kampuchea, to UN Secretary General His Excellency Butrus Butrus-Ghali"—read by announcer]

[Text] Phnom Penh, 5 June 1992

To His Excellency [H.E.] Butrus Butrus-Ghali, secretary general of the United Nations, New York.

The Secretariat of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] handed me a letter dated 3 June 1992 from Your Excellency on 5 June.

I deeply thank Your Excellency for being a close friend of Cambodia and the Cambodian people and for your efforts and concern about the solution to the Cambodian problem, particularly the correct and impartial implementation of the Paris agreement dated 23 October 1991.

As you know, Democratic Kampuchea [DK], which is one of the three factions, had struggled since 1979 to liberate Cambodia from Vietnam's aggression and occupation and solve the Cambodian problem caused by Vietnamese aggression and occupation correctly through political means, as we have declared time and again.

The DK party would like to reiterate that it stands firm on the Paris agreement. The party still believes that only by thoroughly and impartially implementing the Paris agreement can the ruining Cambodia achieve peace and independence, the Cambodian people enjoy their full right to self-determination, achieve national reconciliation and unity in defending the country, and build a new Cambodia with a liberal democratic system and respect for human rights.

To achieve this goal, we have proposed a thorough implementation of two key points of the Paris agreement. They are:

1. A thorough supervision of the total withdrawal of all categories of foreign forces and their non-return to Cambodia.

2. The mandate of the Supreme National Council [SNC] as the legitimate organization and unique source of power in Cambodia.

The implementation of these two points is very important to the restoration of peace and independence in Cambodia, for genuine national reconciliation, and creating a neutral political atmosphere for holding a free and appropriate election to be organized and supervised by UNTAC.

During the SNC meeting on 5 June 1992, I solemnly declared that if the two key points of the Paris agreement are thoroughly implemented, we will respect the decision to observe 13 June as the start of the implementation of the second phase of the cease-fire, and that the remaining military and civilian problems which includes the 12-point proposal of 26 May made by H.E. Akashi, will be resolved quickly.

I would like once again stress to your excellency that the DK party firmly adheres to its stance of pursuing a correct and impartial implementation of the Paris agreement in its entirety in line with its essence and spirit.

In this connection, the DK party will continue to give close cooperation to UNTAC and your special envoy, H.E. Yasushi Akashi.

I am honored to enclose a copy of my address at the SNC meeting on 5 June.

Please, your excellency, accept my deep regards.

[Signed] Khieu Samphan, member of the SNC and head of the DK party

Hor Namhong Holds 5 June News Conference

BK0806080192 Phnom Penh Samleng Pracheachon Kampuchea Radio Network in Cambodian 0430 GMT 8 Jun 92

[News conference held on 5 June by Hor Namhong, member of the SNC and foreign minister of the State of Cambodia in Phnom Penh—recorded]

[Text] [Hor Namhong] Ladies and gentlemen, first of all I would like to thank all of you for attending this news conference. I am sure you know very well the situation we are presently in. However, I have invited you here so I can tell you about some of our worries. We are now facing a very volatile situation in the implementation of the Paris accord, which is being threatened by the attitude of the Khmer Rouge. And the UN Security Council [UNSC] may discuss this problem in the very near future.

These are our worries: While the Khmer Rouge is obstructing our approach to phase two of the cease-fire, they have continued to attack our villages and communes. In Preah Vihear Province alone more than 6,000 people have fled from their villages. Phnum Kulen and Sangkum Thmei Districts are currently under seige by the Khmer Rouge.

In the face of this, what should we and UNTAC [UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia] do? We are reserving our right to self-defense, according to Article 51 of the UN Charter. [UNTAC Chief] His Excellency [H.E.] Yasushi Akashi has also concurred with this.

What worries us more is what will happen next should the UNSC pass a resolution and the Khmer Rouge continue to maintain their present attitude? It is time for us to look closer into this question, i.e. to look beyond the preparations for phase two. If there is a UNSC resolution and the Khmer Rouge still refuses to abide by the accord, what would the UNSC do? We must anticipate this fundamentally important question. You all know about that, so I need not elaborate. I am now ready to answer your questions.

[Unidentified correspondent] [question indistinct].

[Hor Namhong] We have already informed the Supreme National Council [SNC] meeting this morning. The other two factions except for the Khmer Rouge have also clearly made their stance known. We all welcome phase two as stipulated by UNTAC and we also call for the deployment of UNTAC troops throughout Cambodia. As for the specific implementation of phase two, H.E. Akashi and UNTAC will decide on it. H.E. Akashi this morning stressed that efforts are to be made to avoid a situation where the forces of certain factions will be regrouped while those of another are not. In other words, we must avoid inequality.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct].

[Hor Namhong] Maybe the Khmer Rouge can asnwer this question. However, they stated that they had expected the Phnom Penh government to dissolve once UNTAC arrived in Cambodia. But they did not closely scrutinize the Paris accord. Moreover, when they [the Khmer Rouge] came into Cambodia, they saw the real situation in the country. In my opinion, they believe the implementation of the Paris accord would not benefit them in the least.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct].

[Hor Namhong] H.E. Akashi confirmed in this morning's meeting that he would report to the UN secretary-general and that it was very likely the UNSC would discuss this matter. For this reason, all measures to be taken will be entirely up to the UNSC. But in my opinion, we must not overlook the possibility that the UNSC will pass a resolution on this question. After this resolution is taken, it remains to be seen whether the Khmer Rouge will continue with their actions or change their stance. As I said just now, if they have the same attitude, if they continue to be stubbornly opposed to the implementation of the Paris accord, it will be all up to the UNSC to take measures.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct].

[Hor Namhong] I beg not to make any suggestion to the UNSC. It is all up to them. We must however not forget that the UNSC and United Nations have all the means to prevent the Khmer Rouge from violating the Paris accord. If they keep violating it, the UNSC and United Nations will be in a position to declare them as rebels.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct].

[Hor Namhong] As I have just said, the UNSC has all the means to settle this problem, including the use of force as it has just done in some regions of the world. Moreover, if the Khmer Rouge are regarded as rebels, the forces of the State of Cambodia can be employed to ensure security for the people. At present, we are committed to respecting the Paris accord.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct].

[Hor Namhong] The Khmer Rouge has already captured a commune in Preah Vihear Province, which is under the threat of the Khmer Rouge. For this reason, we are worried that the Khmer Rouge might seize the province. The Khmer Rouge are now burning bridges and planting new mines on Route 12 from Kompong Thom to Preah Vihear, making it impassable to us. They have been taking hold of this route, destroying its bridges, and mining it since the beginning of the year. We have not retaliated against them on this route and allow me to specify that we will not fight back. We will only defend and this defense accords with the position of all Cambodian factions. We must not launch attacks to seize new territory. The question now is that we deem it our duty to use our forces to ensure security for the people pending regroupment.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct].

[Hor Namhong] We have decided at this morning's SNC meeting to maintain 13 June as the start of phase two. As for the specific implementation of this phase, it will be up to Mr. Akashi and UNTAC.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct].

[Hor Namhong] We have said that we trust UNTAC and H.E. Akashi. And H.E. Akashi stressed this morning that he would see to it that there will be no inequality.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct].

[Hor Namhong] We must understand that the Khmer Rouge has large amounts of arms caches and they have considerable funds to purchase arms in the future. Therefore, they have the option of waging a long war. For this reason, they have continued provoke Mr. Akashi and the United Nations. However, it is likely that the Khmer Rouge have misjudged one thing: They think that neither the State of Cambodia nor the international community can do anything against them. I personally believe that if this is what the Khmer Rouge think, then they must have erred seriously.

[Correspondent] [question indistinct].

[Hor Namhong] This issue will be part of the UNSC resolution. I am not sure whether it will be very soon or in the distant future, but I know that it will be part of that resolution. Besides, I would like to thank all of you, ladies and gentlemen, for understanding that we are now in a crisis.

Khmer Rouge Statement on Accord Implementation

BK0606031092 (Clandestine) Voice of the Great National Union Front of Cambodia in Cambodian 2330 GMT 5 Jun 92

["Statement of Democratic Kampuchea on two agreements being implemented in Cambodia"—dated 5 June; read by announcer]

[Text] To clearly understand the current implementation of the agreement in Cambodia it is imperative to examine the agreements that are being implemented in Cambodia. Two agreements are being implemented, that is:

I. The 23 October 1991 Paris agreement.

The essence and aim of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement is to end the Vietnamese war of aggression so that Cambodia can enjoy peace with genuine independence. The essence of this agreement is as follows:

1. The Vietnamese must withdraw all categories of their aggressor forces from Cambodia under the supervision of the UN peacekeeping force and the four Cambodian factions.

2. The Supreme National Council [SNC] should play its role as the legitimate body and unique source of power in Cambodia during the transitional period. There should be no other state authority.

3. The UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC] should cooperate to control and manage all affairs in Cambodia, particularly the following five ministries: 1) National Defense; 2) Interior and Security; 3) Foreign Affairs; 4) Finance; and 5) Information.

Only by so doing can there be a neutral political atmosphere for holding a free, democratic, correct, and fair election. Only by so doing can Cambodia achieve peace and independence, can the Cambodian people enjoy the full right to self-determination, and can there be sufficient conditions for defending and rebuilding Cambodia in an atmosphere of national reconciliation, concord, and unity.

II. Another agreement which is contrary to the Paris agreement.

There is another agreement which is being implemented in total contrast to the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement. The essence of this agreement is as follows:

1. To announce that there is no Vietnamese presence in Cambodia to avoid supervision of the Vietnamese aggressor forces and to maintain the Vietnamese forces in Cambodia.

2. To maintain the regime installed by the Vietnamese aggressors since 1979 through their aggression so that it can continue to rule Cambodia through their so-called Honorary President of the State of Cambodia Heng Samrin, Acting President Chea Sim, Prime Minister Hun Sen, Foreign Minister Hor Namhong, and other ministers. These persons have been installed to power in Cambodia since 1979.

In such a situation, there will be no SNC nor neutral political atmosphere and the election will be held under the Vietnamese aggressor regime. In such a case, it will be an election without any neutrality, freedom, democracy, correctness, nor fairness. In such a case, there will be no peace, national reconciliation, or national concord. In such a case, Cambodia will be put under Vietnamese control and no Western superpowers will be able to control Cambodia. This is because the Vietnamese have many favorable conditions regarding Cambodia, that is:

1. The Vietnamese have invaded and controlled Cambodia for 14 years now and have arranged their administration in all aspects and sectors, including the military and police sectors, openly and secretly from the top to the bottom echelons.

2. So far, nearly two million Vietnamese nationals have been sent to Cambodia within the framework of their aggression and occupation. This number is two-eighths of the entire Cambodian population.

Moreover, Vietnam has a population of over 60 million and it is adjacent to Cambodia. For this reason, if the Paris agreement is not implemented correctly and thoroughly, the Vietnamese will certainly send more Vietnamese nationals to Cambodia—500,000 or 1 million at a time until there are 3, 4, and 5 million of them—thus turning them into the three-eighths, four-eighths, five-eighths, and then six-eighths of the Cambodian population. This will enable them to easily annex Cambodia if the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement is not implemented correctly and thoroughly.

Look at present-day Laos. How many Vietnamese are in Laos? How many Vietnamese administrators are in Laos today?

According to definite statistics, there are nearly 3 million Vietnamese in the northern provinces of Laos and nearly 3 million other Vietnamese in the central and southern parts of Laos stretching from the areas north of Route 13 to the Lao-Vietnamese border. This means that at present the Vietnamese population outnumbers the Lao population. But no one says a word about this because it is none of their business. All they have done is just try to smooth their contacts with both Laos and Vietnam.

In the case of our Cambodia, if we allow them to continue trampling upon the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement at will and do not thoroughly control the Vietnamese, the Vietnamese aggressors will continue to stay in Cambodia and the Vietnamese-installed regime will continue to control and administer Cambodia. In such a situation, who can prevent the influx of Vietnamese nationals into Cambodia by the hundreds of thousands and even millions each year? This does not include the settlement of the border problem, that is, the problem of Cambodian territory being nibbled by the Vietnamese through their rewriting of maps at will.

All of this is the situation regarding the current implementation of two different agreements in Cambodia. This means that on the one hand, the Cambodian nation, people, and national resistance forces, and the neutral persons have tried to implement the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement correctly and thoroughly. On the other hand, the Vietnamese, their allies, and the non-neutral persons have strived to implement another agreement which runs contrary to the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement.

These are the facts regarding the current implementation of the agreement in Cambodia. How can we resolve this impasse? It can be done only through the correct and thorough implementation of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement. But if the Vietnamese, their allies, and the non-neutral persons persist in implementing another agreement contrary to the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement, this deadlock will certainly continue.

The Cambodian nation, people, and national resistance forces and the peace-and justice-loving around the world have been monitoring the implementation of the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement. They demand that the 23 October 1991 Paris agreement be implemented correctly and thoroughly for the sake of peace and security in Cambodia as well as for peace, security, and stability in the Southeast Asian region.

[Dated] 5 June 1992

[Signed] Democratic Kampuchea

Khmer Rouge Request for Referendum Reported

BK0706080692 Phnom Penh SPK in French 0404 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Phnom Penh 7 June (SPK)—The Khmer Rouge have asked for a referendum on the question of the Vietnamese troop presence in Cambodia, AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS [AFP] quoted His Royal Highness [HRH] Prince Norodom Sihanouk as saying at the opening of a crucial meeting of the Supreme National Council [SNC] on Friday [5 June]. The former monarch, who is the SNC chairman, disclosed this while opening the meeting that Mr. Yasushi Akashi, head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia [UNTAC], considered "the most important since the creation of the SNC in September 1990."

The Khmer Rouge have blocked the peace process, making the verification by the United Nations of the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops a precondition for the implementation on 13 June of phase two of the peace plan for Cambodia which is currently being executed under UN auspices. They have contested Hanoi's affirmation that the pullout was completed in September 1991.

The second phase envisions regrouping and cantoning some 200,000 soldiers from all factions, then completely disarming and demobilizing them by "at least 70 percent." The UN plan was accepted in Paris in October by the four Cambodian parties.

Prince Norodom Sihanouk said Mr. Akashi had underlined that the Khmer Rouge's new demand for a referendum "did not conform to the letter and spirit" of the peace accord and that the Phnom Penh government had rejected it. The prince added that he had asked the Khmer Rouge to soften their stance on the issue at an inter-Cambodian meeting on Thursday [4 June]. Mr. Khieu Samphan, the nominal Khmer Rouge leader, rejected the request, the prince said.

"Today we are confronted by a great difficulty in the pursuit of the application of the peace accord" in Cambodia, Prince Norodom Sihanouk said. He again asked Mr. Khieu Samphan to soften his stance, saying "it is time to put an end to the suffering" of the Cambodian people.

Mr. Akashi revealed that UN Secretary General Butrus-Butrus Ghali had written to both Prince Norodom Sihanouk and Mr. Khieu Samphan to let them know of "his great preoccupation with the issue." Akashi stressed that the United Nations took "very seriously" the problem of verification of the Vietnamese troops' retreat. He, however, warned against demagoguery aimed at creating confusion about the presence of Vietnamese civilians and troops.

The SNC meeting was held in the presence of Mr. Akashi and his deputy, Australian General John Sanderson, and the diplomats of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council—the United States, Great Britain, Russia, France, and China—who finalized the plan.

The SNC regroups the representatives from the Phnom Penh regime and the opposition movement—including the Khmer Rouge, the followers of Prince Norodom Sihanouk, and those of former Prime Minister Son Sann—to embody the country's sovereignty during the transition in the lead-up to general elections in April or May 1993.

Laos

Talks Held With U.S. Team on Search for MIA's

BK0606080992 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0500 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] The technical delegations of Laos and the United States held talks in Vientiane on 1 June while the U.S. team was on its working visit to the country to follow up on the progress in Lao- U.S. cooperation concerning American pilots missing in action during the war.

The meeting discussed developments in carrying out work following a Lao-U.S. consultative meeting in December 1991 and plans to carry out remaining tasks for the year 1992.

Leading the Lao side at the talks was Lieutenant Colonel Siphai Mundouang, representing the Ministry of National Defense, while other Lao delegates included Inthong Phetsavan, charge d'affairs of the Lao Embassy in the United States, and a number of authorities concerned from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The U.S. team was headed by (Federik Bilgren), charge d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy in Laos, and included Brigadier General (Thomas Williams), technical experts from the U.S. Armed Forces research center in Hawaii, and officials from the U.S. Defense Department.

Both sides expressed satisfaction at the expanded cooperation in resolving problems concerning the search for American MIA's during war. They also discussed ways and means to effectively search for American MIAs in the Lao People's Democratic Republic as quickly as possible.

The meeting reviewed progress in the searching and surveying operations which have been jointly carried out since December 1991, discussed action plans to further search for American MIA's in 1992, as well as prospects for cooperation in 1993.

The American side expressed great thanks to Laos for offering its humanitarian cooperation, and expressed the hope that the search operations for American prisoners of war and MIAs will meet with success. Furthermore, the American team also showed off its grateful attitude to Laos for having set up a task force to coordinate with the United States on searching for MIA's.

The talks proceeded constructively with a spirit of mutual understanding and cooperation and in an atmosphere of friendly relations between Laos and the United States.

Memorandum on Disaster Relief Aid Signed

BK0506101692 Vientiane KPL in English 0910 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Vientiane, June 5 (KPL)—World Vision, an international humanitarian organisation, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry yesterday signed a memorandum of granting U.S. $308,245 to relieve the natural disasters victims in Savannakhet and Chmpassak. The signatories were Mr. Sittaheng Latsaphon, deputy minister of agriculture and forestry, and Dr. Brian Truman, representative of World Vision.

The fund was to help the victims of floods and drought in five areas of Sayabouly district, Savannakhet province, one area of Bachiangchaleunsouk District and three areas of Soukhouma District, Champassak Province. In addition, the fund will be partially paid as wages to the local residents who take part in repairing roads, irrigation facilities and other infrastructure facilities.

With the same fund, 1,000 families of the victims will be supplied with rice seeds and some water buffaloes for their rice cultivation.

Nationwide Public Health Meeting Concludes

BK0706115692 Vientiane Vitthayou Hengsat Radio Network in Lao 0000 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Excerpt] The third national public health conference was concluded yesterday afternoon after having been held for five days from 2-6 June.

Participating in the meeting were a total of more than 200 delegates from central public health services from all the 17 provinces in the country, representatives from international organizations such as the World Health Organization and UNICEF, and governmental and nongovernmental organizations.

The meeting made an overall assessment of various public health activities carried out over the past five years, reviewed achievements of public health works in 1991, mapped out plans for activities in 1992, and laid out criteria for the organization of public health projects at district level.

In addition, the delegates discussed and exchanged views on various problems and thoroughly evaluated past achievements in public health activities. At the same time, they listed actual weakpoints and needs for improvement in the field of public health.

In a consequence, the conference was able to draw invaluable lessons from past experiences, such as lessons from public health work in Phonthong District in Champassak Province and Paklai District in Sayaboury Province; and lessons from experimental projects in Champhon District in Savannakhet Province and Thoulakhom District in Vientiane Province.

At the close of the meeting, Khambou Sounisai, minister of Public Health and chairman of the organizing committee, expressed his view of the objectives and outcome of the national gathering. [passage omitted]

Philippines

Manglapus: U.S. Blocking Diplomatic Initiatives

HK0806070292 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 7 Jun 92 pp 1, 13

[Text] The United States has been a stumbling block to the country's independent foreign policy initiatives on several occasions, Foreign Secretary Raul Manglapus said the other day.

In a forum at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Manglapus said that several diplomatic moves taken by the Philippine government in the past few years were "not just defiant postures before the world."

"They were positive postures in pursuit of our independent foreign policy," he said.

Manglapus cited, among other DFA [Department of Foreign Affairs] initiatives which Washington had tried to block, Manila's hosting of the First International Conference of Newly Restored Democracies in June 1988 which was attended by 14 countries, including Nicaragua, then still under the Sandinistas.

Also represented in the four-day meeting were Argentina, Portugal, Brazil, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Peru, Uruguay, Greece, Spain and the Dominican Republic.

"It was an independent initiative and certainly it was not supported by some of the big powers...the U.S. and most of the countries in Europe opposed the holding of that reunion," he said.

Manglapus said Washington and majority of the European governments even "discouraged international foundations from extending support to it."

The foreign secretary also mentioned the Philippines' recognition of Palestine a couple of years ago, which he said was "against the recommendations of our many Western friends," including the United States.

"Palestine now has an embassy in Manila." Manglapus said. This, he considered one of the "more independent (foreign policy) steps" taken by the foreign office since he assumed his post in October 1987.

Manglapus also recalled that in 1989 and 1990, "we twice presented formally before the United Nations General Assembly a resolution calling for the formation of an International Debt Commission."

The commission, the government proposed, "will provide a forum to all debtor countries and all creditor-countries in dealing with the problem of international debt."

"The proposal received the full support of the Group of 77 (an umbrella organization of Third World countries which now has 124 members). It was, of course, opposed by the US, Japan, the United Kingdom and the rest of Europe and therefore, it failed to pass the assembly as a resolution," he said.

Manglapus chairs the 15-man joint executive-legislative foreign debt council, which is composed of members of Congress and Malacanang officials.

In his assessment of the Aquino administration's foreign policy, Manglapus said the 1986 EDSA [Epifanio de los Santos Avenue] Revolution and the 1987 constitution were the "two striking points for the shaping of that foreign policy."

"We formulated a foreign policy that would pursue in an independent course the objective of preserving, developing and strengthening our newly-restored democracy and we called that policy development diplomacy," he said.

PRC-U.S. Spratly Oil Exploration Protested

HK0806031792 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 7 Jun 92 pp 1, 21

[By Romy V. Mapile]

[Text] A joint exploration project of the People's Republic of China (PROC) and a United States oil company in the Spratlys has raised strong protests among the country claimants to the group of islands in the South China Sea.

The Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia, Taiwan, and Brunei objected to the oil and gas exploration contract signed in Beijing last month between the China government and the U.S. Crestone Energy Company.

The Vietnamese government has demanded that China desist from pursuing the joint exploration project, stating that such operations will cause an infringement on Vietnamese territorial waters.

Hanoi claimed that the waters where the joint exploration would be undertaken is within the Vietnam's exclusive economic zone (EEC), and above Vietnam's continental shelf, off the Vietnamese province of Ria-Vung Tau.

The Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) joined the protest of Vietnam and expressed concern, particularly at the ongoing tension between Vietnam and China among the country-territorial claimants to the group of islands.

The DFA said this new development does not help in reaching a favorable political climate that would lead to a peaceful and equitable settlement of the conflicting claims.

The Philippines occupies eight islands in the Spratlys group and has deployed troops from the combined services of the army, navy and air force to occupy and defend the country's claim to the islands.

The DFA has expressed the government's desire to undertake joint ventures in the area with other country-claimants but so far has not entered into any official talks on the matter.

On the other hand, the Chinese embassy in Manila explained that the Spratley archipelago and the other groups of islands have always been part of China since ancient times.

The embassy said old Chinese maps still show the two major island groups identified as Nansha (Spratlys) and Xisha (Paracels).

Meanwhile, the Indonesia-initiated informal talks on the controversial Spratleys, postponed last April, has been re-scheduled for June and is expected to ease the current tension between Vietnam and PROC.

The informal meeting is proposed to be the venue where the six nations laying claim to the Spratlys can thoroughly discuss the issues of sovereignty through peaceful means.

Ramos Studies Political Reforms

HK0806055292 Quezon City DWDD Armed Forces Radio in Tagalog 0400 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] The Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats [NUCD] is now studying the implementation of massive reforms in the government system, particularly the change from a presidential to parliamentary system. This was stated by Strength-NUCD presidential candidate Fidel Ramos yesterday. He said his party has promised to enforce a system which will be more beneficial to the people.

In this connection, Ramos said he is already preparing himself to lead the government through holding daily unofficial meetings with President Corazon Aquino's cabinet.

Ramos Welcomes Eastern Bloc Economic Initiatives

HK0806030892 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 8 Jun 92 p 3

[Text] Pace-setting presidential candidate Fidel Ramos yesterday indicated that an administration under him would look in all directions of the world to search for partners in the implementation of the country's economic recovery program.

Ramos said his economic policies would cross continental boundaries and welcome initiatives involving nations even from the Eastern European bloc.

"For instance, right now, we have a delegation in Hungary on the invitation of the Christian Democrat government there," bared Ramos.

The RP [Republic of the Philippines] delegation which is representing the Lakas ng EDSA-National Union of Christian Democrats [Strength Epifanio de los Santos Avenue-NUCD] that pushed Ramos's bid as successor to President Aquino, include former lower House member Gualberto Lumauig, NUCD vice presdient Joey Rufino and Benguet Mining executive Luis Lagdamco.

"I don't see why not," Ramos said when asked by foreign mediamen whether he felt comfortable dealing with Eastern European countries such as Czechoslovakia in terms of trade and technical aid.

"Even before the very fundamental changes in Europe, especially Eastern Europe, we have had some visitors in the Department of National Defense coming from Czechoslovakia," Ramos explained. "With the opening of Europe as a whole as well as the victory of the Lakas ng EDSA-NUCD in the Philippines, opportunities are provided for increased trade and other activities that are profitable, productive and advantageous to our own economy."

Ramos also pushed for an intensified economic relationship with other Asian countries, such as Korea, and a broader study of the APTA [expansion unknown].

Ramos said it would be highly beneficial to the Philippine economy if the Korean economic discipline as well as those of Taiwan and Japan could be shared.

"The Korean experience just like the Taiwanese and the Japanese experience, harnessed and fully mobilized the production potential of the households, the families and small enterprises, meaning the ordinary people," Ramos said, citing examples of the popular "people empowerment" principle of the Lakas ng EDSA-NUCD.

"In ours, we are not yet so efficient, we're not yet so productive. So that is one thrust I would like to maximize because the totality of millions of households would be considerable," Ramos said.

Ramos To Pursue Probe on Marcos Yamashita Gold

HK0806102192 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Italicized passages in English]

[Text] Administration candidate Fidel Ramos said he will pursue investigations into the $35 billion wealth of the late President Ferdinand Marcos which reportedly came from the Yamashita treasure.

In an interview with DZRH, Ramos said it is important to locate the gold which was reportedly hidden by the late president in banks and safe deposits in foreign countries. This was also Ramos' reaction to a disclosure by Don Enrique Zobel [businessman and Marcos crony] that the late Marcos offered part of the Yamashita treasure to pay for the Philippines foreign debt.

Here is part of Fidel Ramos' statement:

[Begin Ramos recording] *Whatever can be recovered should be recovered,* because I look at it *as either a resource or asset or money of a public character. If we can verify the truth of the so-called gold, then the public interest will be protected.* [end recording]

Chief Justice Legally Unable To Act as President

HK0806054892 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 7 Jun 92 p 6

[By Jonji Y. Gonzales]

[Text] Cebu City—Chief Justice Andres Narvasa said he cannot assume as caretaker of government if no president or vice president is proclaimed by June 30.

"Neither under the Constitution nor under existing laws can the chief justice assume the presidency," Narvasa told the INQUIRER Friday night.

He warned that a leadership vacuum once President Aquino's term expires at noon on June 30 would be "conducive to instability." But he said he was hopeful the winners will be proclaimed with 10 to 15 days.

"I really hope that (proclamation) happens because that's conducive to stability of the country," he said. He did not elaborate but was apparently referring to rebel soldiers who might take advantage of the situation.

Narvasa came to Cebu to dialog with local trial court judges and members of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines and to celebrate yesterday his 39th wedding anniversary with his wife.

Asked if he was interested to act as caretaker, Narvasa replied: "It's not a question whether I am willing or not. It's a question whether it's legally possible for me to do that."

But he stressed a leadership vacuum will be a "big big problem" because "somebody will have to assume office at that time."

Sen. Jose Lina filed a bill that would designate the chief justice as government caretaker if no president or vice president is proclaimed on June 30. It would also advance the opening session of the new Congress from July 20 to July 1.

The bill was left unattended to until Congress adjourned to canvass the returns in the presidential election. The canvassing is progressing at a snail's pace.

But Lina earlier said the bill can be acted upon only if the President calls for a special session before June 30.

Sen. Arturo Tolentino, however, branded Lina's bill as unconstitutional and suggested that any Cabinet member, particularly the foreign affairs secretary, assumes the role as caretaker as practiced in other countries.

Section 12, Article 8 of the Constitution provides: "The members of the Supreme Court and of other courts established by law shall not be designated to any agency performing quasi-judicial or administrative functions."

With the specific constitutional provision, Narvasa said, "a judge or justice cannot occupy an executive position."

Ramos Maintains Lead in Congress Poll Count

HK0806094992 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0700 GMT 8 Jun 92

[By Norman Estela]

[Text] Here is the running total of the votes for president and vice president. The votes so far counted by Congress represent 44 certificates of canvass, leaving 50 still uncounted.

Fidel Ramos remains in the number one slot and is still advancing slowly. He now has 2,545,031 votes, followed by Miriam Defensor-Santiago with 2,459,455; Danding Cojuangco, 1,937,340; Ramon Mitra, 1,558,163; Jovito Salonga, 1,040,766; Imelda Marcos, 983,990; and Salvador, 167,641.

In the vice presidential race, Joseph Estrada remains in the lead with 2,790,312 votes; followed by Marcelo Fernan, 2,118,230; Lito Osmena, 1,685,513; Ramon Magsaysay Jr., 1,642,792; Aquilino Pimentel, 879,066; Vic Magsaysay, 293,394 and Eva Estrada Kalaw [no number of votes as heard].

Santiago's Camp Wants Count Suspended

HK0806023392 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] The camp of People's Reform Party presidential candidate Miriam Defensor Santiago has urged the suspension of the ongoing Congress canvass. The party's legal counsel, Homobono Adaza, said it violates the Constitution, the Election Law, and the law on congressional canvassing.

In a related development, Attorney Oliver Lozano, lawyer of the New Society Movement, said lawyers of several presidential candidates also plan to boycott the canvassing being done by Congress.

Lozano said they are resorting to a boycott because they have seen that many of the ballots have erasures which favor administration candidate Fidel Ramos.

Man Arrested for Alleged Plot To Kill Aquino

HK0806092992 Manila Manila Broadcasting Company DZRH in Tagalog 0800 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Members of the Presidential Security Group [PSG] have thwarted a reported plot by a flag bearer to kill President Aquino at the 30th World Chess Olympiad held at the Philippine International Convention Center in Roxas Boulevard, Manila. The PSG identified the suspected assassin as Francisco Opao Jr., 42 years old and a lifeguard at the Araneta Foundation. Opao is among the 112 men assigned by the Chess Federation International to carry the flags of participating countries at the opening of the chess olympiad. Authorities said Opao was immmediately arrested by the PSG last night after the PSG heard him say he would stab President Aquino with the sharp flag carrier he was carrying. The PSG immediately pulled the suspected assassin out of the flag bearers group and brought him to the Western Police District detachment at the Cultural Center. The suspect, however, denied the assassination plot. He said he only repeated what a woman co-flag bearer said earlier.

Ramos Tightens Security After Plot Report

HK0606020992 Manila DWIZ Voice of the Filipino People's Radio in Tagalog 2200 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats presidential candidate Fidel V. Ramos has ordered the tightening of his personal security following reports that rightist rebels are plotting to assassinate him. Ramos ordered the additional security as a precaution after receiving reports from the police that the rightist rebels are planning to stage an attack on his house in Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa. No attack has so far occurred. He said the plot against him was revealed by the police after a breakfast meeting with his family, Lea Salonga, and publisher Max Soliven at the Manila Hotel.

Camp Offers Dialogue With Plotters

HK0706080292 Manila DZXL Radio Mindanao Network in Tagalog 0747 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] The Strength-National Union of Christian Democrats [Lakas-NUCD] has offered to talk with military and communist rebels. This was stated by Lakas-NUCD spokesman Rafael Alunan to stop the alleged plot to assassinate administration candidate Fidel Ramos. Alunan called on the slay plotters to stop the nonsense to allow a peaceful transition of government to the new administration.

Ramos was alerted by security men on Thursday [4 June] regarding a plan to attack his home in Ayala, Alabang, Muntinlupa.

Despite this, Alunan still offered to hold a dialogue with the rebel soldiers and communist rebels about their alleged plan to liquidate Ramos.

Rebel Soldiers Deny Part in Attempt

HK0806024692 Manila PHILIPPINES NEWSDAY in English 8 Jun 92 p 1, 2

[By Dario Agnote]

[Text] The leadership of the mutinous forces yesterday vehemently denied allegations by some military officials that the right-wing rebels had finally forged an alliance with the communist insurgents to derail the proclamation of winners in the May 11 synchronized elections, including the assassination of leading administration candidate Fidel Ramos.

The Rebolusyonaryong Alyansang Makabansa-Soldiers of the Filipino People-Young Officers Union (RAM-SFP-YOU) executive committee said in a statement the slay plot against Ramos being hatched by the mutineers and the communist rebels was "pure nonsense."

"(The reports that) the RAM is entering or has entered into a tactical alliance with the NPA (New People's Army) rebels is a disinformation campaign being dished out regularly by the Armed Forces (high command) to the unsuspecting members of the media intended to destroy the credibility of the movement," said a one-page statement purportedly from the executive committee of the RAM-SFP-YOU.

"This talk about the RAM entering into a tactical alliance with the NPA and planning to assassinate Ramos is pure nonsense," said the statement signed by RAM-SFP-YOU spokesman Gabriel Dimasupil which was distributed to media organizations.

According to the statement, Ramos is advantageous to the RAM alive than dead. It added that a Ramos victory was an advantage to the rightist movement which mounted at least seven coup attempts against the Aquino government.

Ramos, it said, "symbolizes opportunism, graft and corruption and immorality." With Ramos in Malacanang, the military rebels said they expected more recruits from the Armed Forces and the Philippine National Police who could not stand the Ramos administration which they deemed just like, if not worse, than the "inept, corrupt and incompetent" Aquino government.

"He (Ramos) is just a computer president and the RAM does not have enough bullets to spare one on him," said the statement.

The statement stressed that the RAM-SFP-YOU could not forge an alliance with the communist insurgents for the simple reason that it is using a foreign ideology which is Marxism.

"Second they (the communist rebels) had treacherously killed 27 RAM members since 1986 and, third, they have no acceptance to the Filipino people as a viable alternative to this inept, corrupt and incompetent government."

In October 1990, then fugitive Army Major Abraham Purugganan revealed to NEWSDAY during a clandestine interview about military rebel plans to forge an alliance with the communist insurgents but the plans did not take off the ground.

Earlier, classified military intelligence reports had confirmed revelations about a "No Proclamation" plot by extreme anti-government forces. Last May 28, some members of the media bureau of the Lakas ng EDSA [Strength and Epifanio de los Santos Avenue-]-National Union of Christian Democrats "leaked" to reporters an alleged plot by the extremist forces to gun down Ramos. In fact, the source said Ramos had already beefed up his security men.

Last week, a military intelligence officer, who declined to be named, "confirmed" the alleged plot only to be downplayed by Defense Secretary Renato de Villa. De Villa told reporters Friday that the assassination plot against Ramos was "understandable" because of Ramos's role in quelling the coups attempts.

Aquino Orders Construction of More Power Plants

HK0306062692 Quezon City DWDD Armed Forces Radio in Tagalog 0400 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] President Corazon Aquino yesterday ordered the immediate construction of power plants that will add 300 mw to the National Power Corporation's [Napocor] present capacity next year.

The president issued the directive in a meeting she presided over in Malacanang yesterday. This was after Napocor obtained the cooperation of other government agencies involved in the processing of proposals for power projects.

At the same time, Raul Concepcion, leader of the multisectoral task force on power rescheduling, withdrew his group's request to declare a state of calamity in various areas of the country due to the power failures.

Orders Privatization of Plants

HK0306124192 Quezon City Radyo ng Bayan in Tagalog 1000 GMT 3 Jun 92

[Text] President Corazon Aquino has ordered the National Power Corporation [Napocor] Chairman Wenceslao dela Paz to immediately implement the privatization of Napocor power plants in Metro Manila. Tanny Rodriguez reports:

[Begin recording] [Rodriguez] Executive Secretary Franklin Drilon said that among those to be privatized first through leasing arrangements are the Malaya 1 and Malaya 2 in Rizal, which are considered two of the country's biggest power plants. Malaya 1 and 2's operation alone, with total capacity of 400 megawatts, will be placed under lease arrangement. Drilon explains this decision by Malacanang.

[Drilon in English] You can not...[changing thought] The capital required is so huge that the immediate and most feasible way of privatizing these is through lease arrangement. But insofar as the new power plants are concerned, these are already on the build-operate-transfer concept and therefore these will be privately owned. [end recording]

Military Faces Revamp as Top Officials Retire

HK0806061692 Manila THE CHRONICLE in English 8 Jun 92 pp 1, 8

[By Manny Mogato]

[Text] A major shake-up in the leadership of the Armed Forces in the coming months would push to key positions senior officers identified with leading presidential candidate Fidel Ramos.

But Ramos, who was the first AFP [Armed Forces of the Phillipines] chief of staff under President Aquino's administration, is said to be adopting a hands-off position on the reorganization and has even expressed willingness to retain Gen. Lisandro Abadia in the AFP's top post.

At least 16 senior generals and naval flag officers are due for retirement between June and December this year after they reach the military's mandatory retirement age of 56 years old.

Among those retiring are Maj. Gen. Loven Abadia, Air Force chief; Brig. Gen. Emesto Calupig, commander of the Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom); Marine Brig. Gen. Brigido Paredes, vice commander of the Navy; and Brig. Gen. Jose Cesar Capa, inspector-general.

In the Air Force, two of three division commanders, another two tactical wing commanders and an air base wing commander are also retiring before November this year.

In the Army, a division commander, two infantry brigade commanders, and the Fort Bonifacio (the Army headquarters) commander are also retiring.

In the Navy, four flag officers assigned as commanders of key naval support units are due to retire. A Marine colonel assigned in a key support unit will also join them.

Camp Aguinaldo sources said two generals known to be close to Ramos are being groomed to take key positions in the AFP leadership.

Army Brig. Gen. Humberto Rebong is being eyed as the next deputy chief of staff for reserve and retiree affairs (J-10), the sources said. The position was vacated by Army Brig. Gen. Ruperto Ambil, who was named commander of the Army's 8th Infantry Division in Samar.

Ambil replaced Brig. Gen. Romulo Yap, who will take over Calupig's position in Camp Aquino in Tarlac as the chief of the Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom). Calupig will retire on June 17.

Rebong worked as a senior military assistant to Ramos when the latter was defense secretary from 1990 until he resigned in July last year. Rebong was retained by Defense Secretary Renato de Villa when he took over Ramos' post.

Another general close to Ramos who is said to be moving up is Air Force Brig. Gen. Carlos Tanega, commander of the 2nd Air Division based in Mactan Air Base in Cebu.

Tanega is reported being eyed as the more logical successor of Abadia, who will retire on Aug. 8. Tanega does not only enjoy seniority over the other contenders but his present position would also count.

The Air Force has three division commanders behind the air force chief. Two of these commanders are retiring this year—Brig. Gen. Epineto Logico (1st Air Division in Villamor Air Base) and Brig. Gen. Alfredo Reyes (3rd

Air Division in Edwin Andrews Air Base in Zamboanga City). Only Tanega is not retiring.

Tanega has worked closely with Ramos, serving as a senior military assistant to the former defense chief until he was named head of the intelligence service of the armed forces (Isafp).

Apart from these two officers, other generals and senior officers known to be close to Ramos are slowly getting into sensitive positions.

One such officer is Brig. Gen. Clemente Mariano, who is now deputy chief of staff for operations (J-3). His position made him the military's chief strategist for the AFP's counterinsurgency operations.

Meanwhile, senior officers who are perceived to be very vocal against Ramos, even when he was still AFP chief of staff, are also retiring this year.

Among them are Marine generals Brigido Paredes and Artemio Tadiar. Paredes is the Navy's vice commander (October) and Tadiar is the commander of the Subic Naval Base Command (Subcom) (December).

The other naval officers retiring this year are Commodores Marino Panes of the Naval Training Command (NTC) (November) and Ruben dela Cruz of the Naval Support Command (Nascom) (December), Marine Colonel Romeo Daranciang of the Marine Service Support Brigade (SSBde) (December) and Captain Jesus Durian (July), commander of Naval Base Cavite. Durian was implicated in the December 1989 coup, but was later released from detention.

In the Air Force, retiring with Abadia (August), Logico (October), and Reyes (July) are Brigadier Generals Santiago Pitpitan of the 5th Fighter Wing (July), Manuel Oxales of 530th Air Base Wing in Zamboanga City (June) and Miguel Hinlo, the former commander of the 100th Training Wing in Lipa, Batangas (October). Hinlo was replaced after a series of S-211 jet trainer and helicopter crashes early this year.

In the Army, retiring officers include Brigadier Generals, Homer Capulong of the 501st infantry Brigade (June), George Moleta of the Headquarters and Headquarters Service Group (HHSG) (September) and Eduardo Fernandez of the 3rd Infantry Division based in Jamindan, Capiz (November). Colonel Crisanto Piol of the 403rd Infantry Brigade (December).

Communists Rule Out Peace Talks With Ramos

HK0806033192 Manila PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER in English 7 Jun 92 pp 1, 13

[Text] The communist National Democratic Front [NDF] has slammed the door to early peace talks with the emerging administration of Fidel V. Ramos, accusing him of using his peace proposals to divide the rebel movement.

This developed as Ramos called on the rebels to surrender and abandon their fight against the government.

In an analysis of the May 11 elections written by Armando Liwanag, chairman of the Communist Party of the Philippines Central Committee, the NDF said Ramos' peace offer was "deceptive" and just one of his "psywar tactics."

The report was released yesterday [6 Jun] through the NDF International Department based in Utrecht, The Netherlands.

"It is absolutely contrary to the interests of the Filipino people and the revolutionary movement to entertain at this time any offer of reconciliation or peace talks with the U.S.-Ramos regime," said Liwanag, believed to be a nom de guerre of Jose Ma. Sison.

"It is an old psywar trick of Ramos to pretend being for bilateral peace talks...in a futile attempt to fragment the revolutionary movement and alienate it from the people."

The NDF described Ramos' call for peace as hypocritical, saying it was he and Defense Secretary Renato S. de Villa who were responsible for the failure of efforts to initiate a new round of peace negotiations.

"...Generals Ramos and De Villa have been the most intransigent opponents to genuine (peace) negotiations abroad for genuine, just and lasting peace," the NDF said.

Peace advocates had tried to arrange for secret talks proposal, however, was rejected by the military, mainly by Ramos.

"They (Ramos and De Villa) have been responsible for such counterrevolutionary proposals as there should actually be no peace negotiations between the GRP (Government of the Republic of the Philippines) and the NDF on an equal footing as belligerent forces under international law...," the NDF said.

Ramos was quoted by REUTERS as saying he would pursue negotiations with the communist rebels initiated by President Aquino.

But, he said, the rebels should lay down their arms before the talks could begin—a condition rejected in the past by the communist rebels.

"As a national policy, I would like to see rebels from the extreme right and the extreme left, including (Muslim) secessionists drop the policy of the armed struggle," Ramos was quoted by REUTERS as saying.

The closest the government and the communist rebels got to achieving peace was in December 1986, when both agreed to declare a nationwide ceasefire that lasted over a month.

The peace talks that followed the ceasefire, however, ended with both parties accusing each other of insincerity.

Negotiators from the communist side returned to hiding after the Jan. 27, 1987, massacre of farmers demanding genuine agrarian reform near Malacanang.

In Liwanag's paper, the NDF said it would "rectify its errors" and "strengthen the party ideologically, politically and organizationally."

"With regard to the question of peace, our general line of people's struggle for national liberation and democracy through armed revolution is the same strategic line for achieving a just and lasting peace," the NDF said.

"Such peace can be achieved only on the basis of the revolutionary strength of the people and not through reactionary elections or peace talks under the one-sided terms of the enemy," it added.

Thailand

Peace Process To Be Discussed With Khmer Rouge

BK0806054892 Hong Kong AFP in English 0537 GMT 8 Jun 92

[By Charles-Antoine de Nerciat]

[Excerpt] Bangkok, June 8 (AFP)—Thailand is to hold talks with the Khmer Rouge to discuss the faltering peace process in Cambodia, a top official said Monday after meeting with leaders of a UN operation in the neighbouring country.

General Charan Kunlawanit, the head of Thailand's top intelligence agency, the National Security Council, was talking to reporters after meeting with Yasushi Akashi, head of the UN Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), and UNTAC military commander, Australian Lieutenant General John Sanderson.

The UN officials were believed to have sought Thailand's assistance in putting pressure on the Khmer Rouge guerrilla faction to respect the Cambodian peace process.

The meeting with Thai officials came as the Khmer Rouge has refused the UN access to areas under its control, blocking the second phase of the peace operation, due to begin next week, during which UNTAC is to supervise the disarming of most of the estimated 200,000 troops from all sides.

Akashi told reporters that the discussions had centered on "how to solve the problem with the Khmer Rouge."

He described the talks, which were also attended by Lieutenant General Ampon Chuthaputti, chief liaison officer between the Thai military and the Foreign Ministry, as "very friendly and useful." More discussions were to take place later Monday, he said.

Charan gave no further indication on talks to be held by Thai officials with the Khmer Rouge. He said that there might have been a breakdown in communications between the faction and the UN. [passage omitted]

Opposition Names Candidate for Premiership

BK0606031992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 6 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] House Speaker Athit Urairat is being pressured by his Samakkhi Tham Party [STP] to quickly propose the name of Chat Thai Party leader Sombun Rahong to His Majesty the King as the next prime minister.

Parliament sources said the pressure included a threat by STP leader Narong Wongwan to quit as party leader.

The sources said Mr Narong has been under a lot of pressure from pro-military parties that want ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun to be prime minister and have criticised Mr Narong for being apparently unable to control the House Speaker.

"STP members are visiting Dr Athit daily to urge him to quickly get on with the nomination process," the sources said.

The pro-military parties—STP, Chat Thai, Social Action, Prachakon Thai, Ratsadon and Puang Chon Chao Thai—have formally nominated ACM Sombun for prime minister.

The opposition, after failing to form the next coalition with New Aspiration Party leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut as prime minister, announced on Thursday that Democrat Party leader Chuan Likphai would lead the move.

Somsak Khun-ngoen, Dr Athit's secretary, admitted there is growing pressure on the House Speaker.

There have been several telephone calls to Dr Athit each day, some to issue direct threats while others called "to ask about Dr Athit's relatives."

Protesters have also rallied near Dr. Athit's home in Soi Ari Sampan off Phahonyothin Road to demand for the quick nomination of a new premier.

Somsak said that Dr Athit has remained cool and patient and is not taking the threats seriously.

"I want to ask all concerned to give him time. We need to think about the country as a whole, not about individual sectors," the Khon Kaen MP said.

He said Dr Athit is keeping a low profile to avoid making statements which could be interpreted as being favourable to either side.

Somsak confirmed that Dr Athit has requested an audience with His Majesty the King and is awaiting a reply.

Chances Called 'Slim'

BK0806053392 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Jun 92 p 1

[Excerpt] The chances of a government being formed by Democrat leader Chuan Likphai appeared slim last night.

The pro-military coalition alliance was standing firm in its pledge to support Chat Thai leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun Rahong as prime minister.

Samakkhi Tham Party [STP] leader Narong Wongwan announced in Chiang Rai Province that the six coalition parties are still strongly behind ACM Sombun.

"Let the Opposition try (to form a government). But our six parties remain united and unchanged," Mr Narong told reporters.

At a luncheon meeting in Muang District with Supreme Commander ACM Kaset Rotchananin, Mr Narong also met House Speaker Dr Athit Urairat, a member of the party, and a group 6 of about 20 [as published] STP representatives from the Northeast.

Mr Narong, apparently in a good mood, said he was not worried by the prospect of pro-democracy activists holding protests against a government led by ACM Sombun.

He said his government would try to clarify matters to the public and would quickly start tackling problems left unattended to.

He insisted that the coalition alliance does not take orders from the military.

"We stick together because we have a covenant which binds us together," he said, responding to a reporter's question about the formation of a govrnment by the coalition parties.

"Everything is now settled."

He said that the lists of the MPs of the six coalition parties nominating Sombun as prime minister are still in his hands. Asked what he would do with the lists, he said he would say on Wednesday.

The coalition alliance, made up of the STP, Chat Thai, Social Action, Prachakon Thai, Ratsadon and Puangchon Chao Thai, commands 195 votes in the 360-member House of Representatives. [passage omitted]

Chat Thai Not To Support Chuan as Prime Minister

BK0706013092 Bangkok THE NATION in English 7 Jun 92 pp A1, A2

[Text] Two senior Chat Thai members yesterday spurned the opposition Democrat Party's efforts to win support for Chuan Likphai's nomination as prime minister, saying the five government parties stood by the agreement to back Chat Thai leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun Rahong.

Chat Thai advisory chairman Pol Gen Praman Adireksan and deputy party leader Sano Thianthong rejected the Democrats' approach after leaders of the five government parties met on Friday night and reaffirmed their commitment to Sombun.

But Chuan, speaking after a special meeting with Democrat MPs called to plan the next stage in the effort to break the political impasse, said that at the moment the chances of success were fifty-fifty.

He said he would continue attempts to bring together government and opposition parties to form a bi-partisan government.

The Democrats have been wooing Chat Thai and Samakkhi Tham key members to try to win sufficient votes for the Opposition camp, comprising four parties, to form a government. None of the Samakkhi Tham leaders have rejected or accepted the overture.

In an interview at the State Railway of Thailand golf course yesterday, Praman, a co-founder of Chat Thai, said it was unlikely his party would back Chuan's nomination.

"It is not right for Chat Thai to let the leader of a smaller party seize the top executive post," he said.

Praman said that his party stood firm behind Sombun's nomination and would remain so unless the party held a formal meeting to reverse the stand.

"But I don't think that would be likely because we have thoroughly considered the matter before arriving at the present stand," he said.

At the Pinehurst golf course, Sano told reporters that the five parties remained united in their support for Sombun.

The deputy party leader, who is one of two acting Cabinet members accused by a military-appointed commitee of accumulating ill-gotten assets, said the Democrat Party's overture was a trap for Chat Thai.

"The Democrats are making a bonfire for us to jump into," he said.

Sano said the Chat Thai Party would welcome the Democrat Party deserting the Opposition bloc to join the coalition, but would not let down the government camp.

"Why do we have to switch over to the Opposition side? Why doesn't the Democrat Party switch to our side?"

He said Chat Thai appreciated the ability of the Democrats to run the government and would welcome its participation in a Sombun government.

The deputy leader said that his counterpart in the Democrat Party, Prachaup Chaisan, had asked to play golf with him today and was expected to raise the proposal again.

Commenting on Chuan replacing New Aspiration Party leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut as a prime ministerial candidate, Sano said that Chuan was probably "fooled" by the others in the bloc when they agreed to support him and encourage him to take the lead in forming a new government.

By taking the lead from Chawalit, Chuan was put in a political deadlock and as a result he could not defect to the government side, Sano said.

Sano appeared upset over House Speaker Dr Athit Urairat's failure to seek an early audience with His Majesty the King to formally lodge Sombun's nomination.

"Whether the nomination is made before or after the final passage of the constitutional amendments, we in the five parties will continue to support (Sombun's) nomination," he said.

Sano became angry when asked whether he could be sure that Athit, a member of the Samakkhi Tham Party, would present Sombun's name during the audience with His Majesty.

"If he does not nominate Sombun when the Chat Thai leader has majority support in the House, then he should hang himself," Sano said.

Chat Thai sources said Athit had not only failed to deliver Sombun's nomination to His Majesty, but had also asked the Royal Household to return to him the official documents stating the five parties' support for the Chat Thai leader.

"His move caused suspicions within Chat Thai over Samakkhi Tham's failure to control Athit," said one source who asked not to be named.

But a Samakkhi Tham MP told THE NATION that party leader Narong Wongwan told a group of party MPs at his residence on Friday night that the core members of the five parties had reaffirmed their agreement to back Sombun.

"The five parties are sticking together because we know that if any of us break ranks, then (the party) would take the risk of being in the Opposition. By sticking together, we are all sure that we will be in government," said the MP who asked not to be named.

Before the meeting with the MPs, Narong received Sombun and Social Action Party leader Montri Phongphanit at his residence in a show of solidarity.

Meanwhile, Democrat secretary general Col Sanan Kachonprasoet met with his counterparts from the other opposition parties at the Princess Hotel to inform them of the Democrat's latest attempts to woo government parties.

Sanan told reporters he filled in the other three secretaries general on the contacts made by the Democrats and presented his assessment as to which government parties could form a coalition with the Opposition.

He denied Sano's claim that the Democrats were duped by the other opposition parties.

"We were not. We are simply undertaking our responsibility entrusted by the Opposition," he said.

The Democrat said his party would try to fulfil the mission before June 10 when Parliament is scheduled to pass the constitutional amendments in the third and final reading. Athit previously said he would delay the nomination until after the final passage of the charter changes.

Later in the afternoon, Chuan called a special meeting of Democrat MPs at the party headquarters and briefed them on the latest situation.

Party spokesman Chulin Laksanawisit said that "some progress" was made in the Democrat lobbyists' efforts to court government parties.

He refused to provide any details on the behind-the-scenes negotiations.

Deputy Democrat leader Banyat Banthatthan, who was among the party lobbyists, said that the Democrats were at this stage trying to convince leaders in government parties of the need for them to join with the Opposition and form a neutral government to patch up national rift and rehabilitate the hard-hit economy.

He said neither the Democrats nor the government parties set any pre-conditions for their possible affiliations.

Chuan Called Acceptable as Premier, Not Chawalit

BK0806020992 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 8 Jun 92 p 1

[Text] A new coalition government led by Democrat Party leader Chuan Likphai as prime minister is acceptable to the military but the inclusion of the New Aspiration Party (NAP) in the would-be government is unacceptable to them, sources said yesterday.

The sources, which included a key military figure, said there was a strong possibility that a Democrat-led coalition government could be set up if the party agreed to exclude the NAP.

One key source, an army general, said Mr Chuan's role during the protest to oust Gen Suchinda Khraprayun from the premiership last month was acceptable as he played no role in leading the people from Sanam Luang to confront the military which lead to bloodshed during May 17-20.

"He (Mr Chuan) plays politics in accordance with democratic rules and this is acceptable which is quite different from other Opposition parties that used all kinds of tricks to achieve their political aim without considering the damage caused to the country," the high-ranking officer said.

Other informed political sources yesterday predicted that the current attempt by the Democrat Party to form a government with Opposition parties and one or more government parties was doomed to failure if the party insisted on having Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut's NAP at its side.

"It is totally unacceptable for the New Aspiration Party to join the new government. The party should be realistic in launching its move. It has to be acceptable (to the key power-holders).

"The political impasse cannot be resolved under a scenario that includes the New Aspiration Party," said a key member in the caretaker government.

Mr Chuan's Democrat Party is insisting it cannot exclude the NAP from its coalition government as the four Opposition parties—the Democrat, NAP, Solidarity andd Phalang Tham—have stuck together with the purpose of forming a new government.

Asked about the possibility that Chat Thai would defect to join the Opposition, the source, a cabinet member, ruled out such a move.

"The political situation will become worse if Chat Thai joins the other side as this would be considered as intolerable by key military figures.

"Under this development, no one knows what would happen next," the source said.

Recalling the process for the nomination of the prime minister, the cabinet minister said all five parties had already proposed Chat Thai leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun Rahong to House Speaker Athit Urairat as their choice for prime minister.

He believed that the official announcement could be made by next week.

However, a Chat Thai MP and member of the parliamentary coordination committee, Niphon Wisityuthasat, was pessimistic that the attempt by the Democrat Party would be successful.

"As a member of Chat Thai, how could we support the Democrat Party leader as prime minister.

"I don't think that the move will have any impact on our party's stance as the decision by the five coalition parties to support ACM Sombun has already been made," said the three-time MP for Ang Thong Province.

Chuan Seen as Answer to Deadlock

BK0706020092 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Jun 92 p 4

["Weekend Analysis" by Banyat Thatsaniyawet]

[Text] The attempt to set up a new government under the leadership of Democrat Party leader Chuan Likphai has a better chance of success than that of New Aspiration Party leader Gen Chawalit Yongchaiyut, considering the current political circumstances.

Even though the Democrat Party has only 43 seats in Parliament, which is much less than the New Aspiration with 72 MPs, Mr Chuan has an advantage over Gen Chawalit who is not on the same wave-length as the Class Five military leaders who are still in power. That is still an important criterion for the setting up of a new government in this country.

Another point is that the Democrat Party is not held in total contempt by the military because it was approached to join the administration of Gen Suchinda Khraprayun. It is also understood that the five coalition parties also wanted them as partner with Chat Thai leader ACM [Air Chief Marshal] Sombun Rahong as premier.

However, it was the Democrat Party's decision not to join.

Gen Chawalit's withdrawal last Thursday from the Opposition's attempt to be the core of the government caused the political deadlock to loosen a little and open the way for more alternatives other than the dissolution of Parliament.

This may be because of the strong objection from people of all walks of life. Over the past few weeks it has become clear that if the six coalition parties of Samakkhi Tham, Chat Thai, Social Action, Prachakon Thai, Ratsadon and Puang Chon Chao Thai form a government under ACM Sombun as prime minister then there will be a strong and violent reaction from the people. Another tragedy could occur.

House Speaker Athit Urairat's holding back of the nomination of ACM Sombun as prime minister until after the charter amendment drafts pass their last reading on Wednesday, shows his responsibility and long-term vision. He knows that there will be unavoidable chaos if ACM Sombun becomes prime minister.

Dr Athit is under great pressure from the pro-military parties to quickly forward the nomination for the royal appointment by His Majesty the King.

Certainly Dr Athit did not take his action all by himself without consulting the powers-that-be who are responsible for the country.

The call from all sectors of society for the dissolution of Parliament to solve the political stalemate is a new phenomenon showing the concern of the people for what is happening in their country.

The political impasse is not helped by the fact that the five coalition parties are unacceptable to the people, while the four opposition parties do not have sufficient support to set up a government.

Even though all of the MPs in the House say that they do not agree with a dissolution and argue for Parliament to be the venue for solving political problems first, each MP knows that the people's faith in them is being severely challenged.

If they do not help each other to find a way out and answer the wish of the people then the chance of a dissolution of the House is high and they will have to go back and fight on the election campaign trail again.

Coalition MPs, whose parties are being called on by the people to take responsibility for the crisis that has caused a lot of deaths, will feel it more than most. The people are opposed to them forming another government. These MPs will have to think hard about the chances of winning re-election. Only the very rich MPs with a lot of influence stand a sure chance of retaining office in a new general election.

Under this ripe and clear political situation, the chances of Democrat Party leader Chuan Likphai setting up a government are reasonable. At the very least, he has a better chance than Gen Chawalit because many MPs would see that this is their last train which they cannot afford to miss.

But the main reason that a new government cannot yet be formed is the conscience of the key military brass who are hiding behind the giant shadow cast by the Armed Forces. They are still using the six coalition parties as their proxy to retain power.

They are afraid that if anything should happen to the Amnesty Executive Decree, scheduled for debate on Wednesday, then they could be put on trial for the killing of unarmed protesters.

They are also afraid that the power base that they had so carefully constructed in the Armed Forces would fall apart if a new government did not include parties under their control or influence.

Is it possible that these mighty warriors will have the conscience to abdicate? Their stubborn mindedness to continue directing politics, other than lacking the legitimacy, will cause more damage to the country and more pain for the people. It will not be good for them in the long run.

At present key Democrat Party members are approaching leading figures in the Chat Thai and Samakkhi Tham parties to join them in rebuilding the public faith in the parliamentary system as an institution to solve the problems of the country and eliminate the calls for a dissolution of Parliament.

Whether or not Mr Chuan will be successful in his attempt will be known within the next few days.

Government Coalition Affirms Support for Chombun

BK0606075392 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 0530 GMT 6 May 92

[Text] The Samakkhi Tham Party has reaffirmed its stand on cooperation with other coalition parties to form a new government, although the opposition parties have entrusted the Democrat Party with forming a government. Caretaker Deputy Communications Minister Suwat Liptaphanlop granted an interview to a Public Relations Department correspondent in Nakhon Ratchasima Province while inspecting progress in construction of the Technology College of Nakhon Ratchasima.

[Begin recording] [Suwat] The 195 MPs [members of parliament] remain united. The four old opposition parties have assigned Democrat Party leader Chuan Likphai to form a new government. I do not know the progress of talks between the five coalition parties and Chuan Likphai. However, in principle the five parties are sticking together.

[Correspondent] Are they still firmly sticking together?

[Suwat] Up to now, they have been firmly sticking together.

[Correspondent] Do you think the Chat Thai Party is going to join the opposition?

[Suwat] I don't think so. Former Prime Minister Chatchai Chunhawan has merely expressed his opinion as a senior politician who wants to see peace in the country and the smooth formation of a government regardless of whether the political parties are in the government or the opposition bloc. Those are his personal opinions about the nation's welfare.

[Correspondent] What is the best solution?

[Suwat] I think it is necessary right now for us to have a government that is acceptable to and capable of creating confidence in all groups concerned. The Anan Panyarachun government had assumed a caretaker status for three months in the runup to the last election, and almost three months have passed since the last election. Still, we have not had a permanent government for almost six months. If the house is dissolved, it will take three more months for another general election. It will take another one month for the formation of a government after the general election. So, this means that we will not have a permanent government for 10 months if the House of Representatives is dissolved.

If this occurs, the country's economy will continue to suffer. The most important thing now is for us to have a government. All parties, regardless of whether they are in the five coalition parties or in the four opposition parties, must face each other to compromise to form a government under the current circumstances. [end recording]

Firm Coalition Support Cited

BK0806110992 Bangkok Thai Color Television Channel 3 in Thai 1018 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] After a consultative meeting at Siam City Hotel today, representatives of the six parties—namely Narong Wongwan, leader of the Samakkhi Tham party; Banhan Sinlapa-acha, secretary general of the Chat Thai Party; Montri Phongphanit, leader of the Social Action Party; Samak Suntharawet, leader of the Prachakon Thai Party; Chaiphak Siriwat, secretary general of the Ratsadon Party; and Colonel Phon Roengpraseotwit, leader of the Puangchon Chao Thai—held a joint news conference reaffirming that the six parties are still firmly united in supporting Air Chief Marshal Sombun Rahong, leader of the Chat Thai Party, to be prime minister.

[Begin recording of Suchat Tancharoen, spokesman of the Samakkhi Tham Party] This is appropriate. To leave the country without a government for a long period of time is detrimental to the economy, investment, and security of the people. All political parties and the people from all walks of life also agree with this assumption. For this reason, we must inform the people about the coalition's decision to reaffirm its support for ACM Sombun Rahong to form a government to administer the country. [end recording]

Asked if the six parties are qualified to form a government as they have been accused of being involved in the massacre of the people, representatives of the six parties replied that they have complied with constitutional procedures. They said that if their parties succeed in forming a government, actions will be taken to find the persons who were responsible for the carnage.

[Begin recording] [Montri Phongphanit] It is unfair to say that our parties are not qualified to form a government. If we have no qualifications, we will not be qualified to do so regardless of which side we take. Why do they persuade us to join them if we have no qualifications to form a government? I want to ask: What do they mean when they say qualifications or credentials? One hundred and ninty-five members of the House of Representatives are the majority that can form a government. Tell me how you can help them gain the majority vote.

[Unidentified reporter] We are talking about the principle.

[Montri] This is the principle. We let them have 10 days already to form a government.

[Unidentified reporter] The people say the five parties have no right to form a government because of their involvement in the....

[Montri, interrupting] They have failed to form a government over the past 10 days. They say we have no credentials to form a government. If one party has no credentials, all of the six parties do not have either....

[Unidentified reporter interrupts with indistinct remarks]

[Montri] I said during the past three days, our six parties welcome all parties to join us.

[Unidentified reporter] Why don't....

[Montri, interrupting] In practice, that is impossible. [end recording]

Police: All Detained During Unrest Released

BK0706014492 Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Jun 92 p 6

[Excerpt] All 3,592 people arrested in connection with the May 17-20 turmoil have been released since the Amnesty Executive Decree was announced on May 23, Deputy Police Chief Pol Gen Phongamat Amatayakun said yesterday.

The Police Department deputy director-general said all of those arrested had been charged with rioting, were arrested by soldiers, and held at the Bang Khen Police Cadet School as well as other places.

Everyone was released when Gen Suchinda Khraprayun issued an executive decree paradoning all involved in the unrest a day before he resigned as prime minister.

Pol Gen Phongamat said the department before the amnesty had sped up its investigation and released 2,601 people, mostly young boys and girls, and detained for prosecution only 991 people.

Of these, a number were given bail and the rest were released when the amnesty decree came out.

The police are now holding no one in connection with the unrest, he said.

He said representatives of some organisations have misunderstood the facts and are still saying in Press interviews that investigators are still holding a number of protesters.

Asked what would happen if the amnesty decree is revoked, Pol Gen Phongamat said he was told the New Aspiration Party is filing a second motion to the Constitution Tribunal to rule on the constitutionality of the decree.

If the result is to uphold the decree then the amnesty will still be considered effective and those charged earlier will be considered not to have done any wrong.

However, if the result is to revoke the decree then investigators will have to proceed with the original charges and file for prosecution.

Asked about facts on those killed and missing during the suppression, the deputy police chief said he has been appointed by the Interior Ministry to chair a subcommittee to find out the number of those killed and missing. [passage omitted]

Cabinet Resolution To Shoot Protestors 'False'

BK0506130892 Bangkok Radio Thailand Network in Thai 1200 GMT 5 Jun 92

["Cabinet Secretariat's Clarification"]

[Text] Several people have made statements to the public and the press to the effect that the 18 May meeting of the cabinet issued a resolution on five points: 1) schools are to be closed during 20-22 May 2) rally participants are to be drastically suppressed 3) rally leaders are to be arrested 4) governors are allowed to drastically suppress rally participants; and 5) hospitals are to accept people killed or wounded. These people concluded that the resolution showed that it was the intention of the government to hurt the rally participants.

The Cabinet Secretariat wishes to inform everyone that the said cabinet meeting did not issue the resolution in question or any resolution of similar implications. Moreover, no cabinet members made suggestions or brought the issue up for debate, with the exception of the acknowledgement of the Education Ministry's instruction on school closure during the period which could endanger teachers and students, and the prime minister informing the meeting that the state of emergency had been imposed.

Therefore, the Cabinet Secretariat wishes to inform the public that the reports concerning the said cabinet resolution are completely false.

Activists Urge UN Search for Missing Protestors

BK0506114892 Hong Kong AFP in English 1132 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Bangkok, June 5 (AFP)—The activist group Campaign for Popular Democracy has called for a U.N. investigation into the hundreds of people still missing from last month's violent clashes in Bangkok.

The group made the request in a three-page document dated Thursday and sent to the U.N. Human Rights Center in Geneva. A copy was sent to news agencies in Bangkok on Friday.

It calls for the United Nations to press "the Thai Government and relevent military leaders to inquire about the deaths, disappearances, killings, torture and other malpractices" during the May 17-20 crackdown on massive pro-democracy demonstrations in the capital.

Hundreds of people were killed or wounded when authorities dispersed the demonstrators. The English-language newspaper BANGKOK POST has since run a list of nearly 1,000 names of people it said were still missing.

The activist group also urged the United Nations to "initiate investigations concerning the above allegations immediately and ensure that those responsible for the crimes are brought to justice."

Finally, it asked the United Nations to "urge the Thai Government to extend to you an immediate invitation to visit Thailand to carry out a balanced fact-finding mission and submit the findings to the U.N. and the world public for further action."

The Campaign for Popular Democracy is composed of the Students Federation of Thailand, academics from the nation's universties and members of non-government organizations working in the kingdom.

Vietnam

Claim of SRV Troops in Cambodia Rejected

BK0706153092 Hanoi VNA in English 1425 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA May 7—The Information Bureau of the National Army of Democratic Cambodia on June 1st alleged that Vietnamese troops together with troops of the State of Cambodia are fighting against the Army of Democratic Cambodia and that Vietnam continues to send troops and weapons to Cambodia.

The spokesman of the Vietnamese Embassy in Cambodia has rejected those ill-intentioned allegations as mere fabrications to cover Democratic Cambodia's military activities in violation of the Paris agreement and to prevent the implementation of the second phase of the ceasefire agreement.

Country Recognized as Member of Ministerial Group

BK0506153292 Hanoi VNA in English 1516 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 5—Vietnam has officially been recognised as a member of the Southeast Asia Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO).

At a meeting in Hanoi yesterday with the ambassadors of Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Japan, Laos, Cambodia, France and Malaysia.

Minister of Education and Training Tran Hong Quan described this as an important event, helping Vietnam strengthen its cooperation with Southeast Asian countries as well as with each ASEAN member country in the development of education, culture, science and technology.

He also pointed to Vietnam's difficulties, advantages and determination in its educational-development cause.

Japanese Firm Seeks Transport Investment Projects

BK0606151792 Hanoi VNA in English 1446 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 6—A 19-member team of NYK Line, a Japanese transport corporation, is seeking opportunities for investment in the transportation of exports and imports in Vietnam.

NYK Line has already asked the import-export transportation company in Ho Chi Minh City (Transimex Saigon) to act as its agent in Vietnam. The task requires Transimex Saigon to ensure the timely and safe delivery of imports and exports.

The Japanese are looking into ports, storehouses, and shipping and infrastructure facilities in Ho Chi Minh City for possible in-depth investments.

Apprentices To Serve in Japanese Enterprises

BK0706082092 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 4 Jun 92

[Text] The Japanese newspaper KEIZAI SHIMBUN in its Wednesday issue said that the Tokyo Center for Development and Business Promotion decided to receive Vietnamese apprentices. The center consists of 68 companies and medium and small enterprises in (Kanto) area.

The first batch of Vietnamese apprentices will arrive in Japan in July and the second batch in October. The 14 enterprises where they come to work manufacture cars and household utensils.

Figures for 1992 Trade With UK Reported

BK3106151592 Hanoi VNA in English 1328 GMT 31 May 92

[Text] Hanoi, VNA May 31—In March 1992, Vietnam's exports to Britain were valued at 361,780 pounds sterling, bringing the value of exports to Britain in the first three months of this year to 2,803,970 pounds.

Also in March, Vietnam imported from Britain 779,750 pounds worth of goods, bringing the import value in the first quarter of this year to 1,781,870 pounds. The main export items were garments (189,700 pounds), seafoods (97,700 pounds), arts and crafts (25,200 pounds), black tea (23,490 pounds), canned pineapple, groundnut and other items.

UK Gives $1.8 Million for Hong Kong Returnees

BK0706084492 Hanoi Voice of Vietnam in English 1000 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Britain will provide Vietnam another million pounds, roughly $1.8 million, to help Vietnamese boat people from Hong Kong to repatriate and be reunited with their families.

The British Commonwealth and Foreign Office say this sum of money will be spent on training and generating jobs as well as other development projects for repatriates from Hong Kong.

On Thursday, British Foreign Secretary [title as heard] Linda Chalker informed the Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam of this decision.

Nguyen Manh Cam Makes Official Visit to UK

BK0806064792 Hanoi VNA in English 0613 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 8—Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam paid a visit to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland from June 4-6.

Nguyen Manh Cam was the first Vietnamese foreign minister to make an official visit to Britain since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 1973.

While there Minister Nguyen Manh Cam held talks with Douglas Hurd, secretary for foreign and commonwealth affairs; Alastair Goodad, secretary in charge of Asia; Tim Eggar, minister of energy; and Ms Linda Chalker, minister in charge of overseas development.

The talks took place in an atmosphere of frankness, openess and goodwill. The British side highly appreciated Vietnam's achievements in the current process of renovation and the implementation of its policy of independence, sovereignty and diversification of relations. The British Government expressed its wish to further develop its relations with Vietnam, firstly economic relation with focus on the fields of oil and gas, chemicals, infrastructure and commerce. The British Government announced to increase aid to the programme of voluntary repatriation, the training of Vietnamese personnel in foreign language and some professions, and affirmed its support for the normalisation of relations between Vietnam and international financial and monetary organization. The two sides agreed to proceed with preparations for the signing of an agreement on investment encouragement and protection, double taxation, and a framework agreement on scientific and technological cooperation which aims to create basis for the development of bilateral economic ties, as well as favourable conditions for businessmen to invest in Vietnam.

Minister Nguyen Manh Cam also visited the Parliament, met with representatives of 34 big companies of the British-Vietnamese Commerce League, had working sessions with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of London, the Britain-Vietnam Association and the committee for medical and scientific aid to Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia.

Foreign Minister Visits Belgium 1-3 Jun

BK0606072092 Hanoi VNA in English 0638 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 6—Vietnamese Foreign Minister Nguyen Manh Cam paid a visit to the Kingdom of Belgium from June 1-3.

While there, Nguyen Manh Cam held talks with Willy Claes, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and Eric Derycke, secretary of state for cooperation and development.

He also had working sessions with Melchior Wathelet, deputy prime minister and minister of justice and economy, and met with leaders of the Federation of Enterprises of Belgium (FEB) and a number of Belgian businesmen.

He also met the committees of the Belgium-Vietnam Friendship Association and the Association of Vietnamese Residents in Belgium.

During their talks and meeting, the two sides discussed the strengthening of cooperative relations between the two countries and international and regional issues of common concern.

Mr. Willy Claes and other high-ranking officials of Belgium welcomed Vietnam's open-door policy, particularly its effort to improve relations with Southeast Asia.

The European countries highly valued Vietnam's contributions to the peaceful settlement of Cambodia issue and Vietnam's stance on this issue.

On bilateral relations, Belgium affirmed that it will carry on its policy of broadening relations with Vietnam and will contribute to economic construction in Vietnam, strengthen and broaden its multiform relations with Vietnam in the linterests of the two peoples, of peace, stability and development in the region.

On June 3, Mr Franz Andriessen, vice president of the EC in charge of external relations, received and exchanged views with Nguyen Manh Cam on measures to enhance the cooperative relations between Vietnam and the EC and on EC's assistance to Vietnam.

The two sides agreed to step up the implementation of the EC programme on reintegration of the "boat people" and to negotiate an agreement on textiles between Vietnam and the EC.

French Bank To Open in Ho Chi Minh City

BK0806062992 Hanoi VNA in English 0557 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 8—Banque Nationale de Paris (BNP) last Saturday got permission from the governor-general of Vietnam State Bank to establish a branch in Ho Chi Minh City, becoming the fourth foreign bank to have been allowed to operate commercially in Vietnam, after Bangkok Bank of Thailand and Indosuez and Credit Lyonnais of France.

The licence was presented to Asian-Pacific Regional Manager BNP Didier Balme.

Balme and BNP hoped to have also a branch in Hanoi as soon as possible. But a Vietnamese official said another licence would take at least three more years.

Balme was also quoted as saying he expected foreign investment, especially in the oil and gas industry, to increase very fast in the coming years, making it of "paramount importance" to add Vietnam to BNP's Asian network.

"Vietnam is part of the Southeast Asian region which is developing very fast and I am sure that the growth of the country will be as fast as the neighbouring countries', he said.

Joint Venture With Russia on Gold Prospecting

BK0606072692 Hanoi VNA in English 0637 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 6—A Vietnam-Russia joint venture on gold prospection and mining named Vingazoloto has been set up in the northern province of Bac Thai.

The joint venture is formed by the Bac Thai non-ferrous metals enterprise under the Vietnam precious minerals corporation and the foreign trade corporation of the Russian Federation.

The joint venture is capitalized at U.S.$1,904,000 of which U.S.$1,604,000 are prescribed capital. Vietnam has a 40 per cent share.

Byelarus Deputy Premier Reaffirms Cooperation

BK0806062192 Hanoi VNA in English 0554 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 8—Vietnamese Ambassador to the Russian Federation Ho Huan Nghiem and Byelarussian Deputy Premier Nikolay Kostikov have reaffirmed their governments' wish to further enhance the friendship and cooperation between the two countries.

In the Byelarussian deputy premier's reception in Minsk on June 6 of the Vietnamese diplomat, host and guest also exchanged views on bilateral economic and trade cooperation.

The same day, the Vietnamese ambassador had working sessions with the chairman of the Byelarussian Commission for External Economic Relations, V. Ruskevich.

Australia Becomes 4th-Largest Foreign Investor

BK0706073792 Hanoi VNA in English 0607 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 6—With 22 projects in Vietnam capitalised at 292 million U.S. dollars, Australia is fourth out of the 30 foreign investors.

The biggest and probably the most effective joint venture is in telecommunications.

Australia is also very active in mining, including oil and gas exploration and exploitation and is investing heavily in hotel building and tourism. Australian lawyers seem to have a better knowledge of Vietnam's investment law than other foreign lawyers as they cooperated with Vietnam from the moment the law was prepared until it was put in print.

The Australian Government has taken an encouraging attitude regarding investment in Vietnam by Australian companies. Most recently it decided to give Vietnam aid worth more than 70 million U.S. dollars.

South Australia is the largest investor. Companies from there are taking part in mining for iron, copper, uranium, lead and coal and are supplying equipment to Vietnam's mining industry.

Australians will also engage in processing farm produce, including meat for export, and in livestock breeding.

The chairman of the State Committee for Cooperation and Investment, Mr. Dau Ngoc Xuan, has asked Australia to supply breeding and foodstuff processing technologies so that more food products can be exported to customary markets in eastern Europe and the CIS. Vietnam is also ready to provide south Australia with an area of 200-300 hectares for an industrial centre, he said.

In July, a large business delegation from Australia will visit Vietnam to study new possibilities for investment and trade.

Talks Open With Malaysia on Oil Exploration

BK0606074092 Hanoi VNA in English 0709 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 6—Vietnam and Malaysia on June 3 opened three days of talks to define for joint oil exploration in area claimed by both countries.

The Vietnamese delegation is led by Deputy Foreign Minister Vu Khoan and the Malaysian delegation by Foreign Ministry Secretary General Ahmad Kamil Jaafar. The talks cover only the area claimed by both Vietnam and Malaysia, leaving a side other areas which are claimed also by other countries. Neither do the talks deal with the Truong Sa archipelago which both parties said should be solved through negotiations and consultations. They called on other interested parties to create an atmosphere conductive to cooperation in solving this issue.

The two sides agreed to jointly explore for oil in an area on the continental shelf identified as the western sea of Vietnam and the northeastern sea of Malaysia. Petrovietnam and Petronas were empowered to meet and discuss ways of cooperation. This cooperation, it was underline during the talks, would not affect the delineation on the sea in the future. A memorandum of understanding was reached at the end of the meeting.

Vinacontrol Continues Expanding, Improving

BK0706153992 Hanoi VNA in English 1420 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 7—Established in 1959, the Vietnam Superintendence and Inspection Company (Vinacontrol) now works in cooperation with the Societe generale de surveillance of Switzerland (SGS), which has over 100 years of experience and has branch offices in 150 countries, as well as with the French Bureau veritas group (Bureau veritas). The company has also aid amounting to 525,000 dollars from the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

Vinacontrol, whose ultimate objective is accuracy, promptness and dependability, has extended its services to many diffierent areas such as rice, crude oil, coal, cast iron, tin and aquatic produce. The amount handled last year stood at 13.5 million tonnes, said deputy director general Truong Dang Quang.

90 percent of the 905,000 tonnes of export rice last year went through Vinacontrol, which also took charge of 92 percent of the export coal, 70 percent of the exported agricultural products, 80 percent of the volume of cast iron and tin and some 2.7 million tonnes of the crude oil exported in the first year of production. The future is particularly promising regarding crude oil as Vietnam plans to export 4.8-5 million tonnes this year and 8-9 million tonnes in 1995.

In the past 10 years, Vinacontrol established contacts with 30 similar organisations abroad and numerous export-import companies in the country. The company has set up branches in all major ports and harbours in the country.

UNDP Pledges Environment Protection Aid for Hanoi

BK0506153592 Hanoi VNA in English 1440 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 5—Mr. David smith, resident representative of the United Nations Development Programme [UNDP] and the UN System, has praised Hanoi for its "great awareness" of the problems of environnental degradation and the need for protection. Addressing the opening on Thursday of a two-day seminar on the environment and development of Hanoi organised by the Municipal People's Committee, he mentioned many projects either in progress or under review and noted that the resources needed for some of these projects would be "immense."

"We would do our best to work with you and try to mobilise further external support, "Mr. Smith quoted by Vietnam News as promising.

He went on: "I am very happy to note that in Hanoi, the people's committee in particular, there is a great awareness of the problems of the environmental degradation and the need for protection. I should mention that under the current five-year programme of the UNDP, support for environmentally sustainable growth and human settlement development is one of our four areas of focus.

"As [words indistinct] UNDP and the World Bank have been working for some time on reviewing problems of water supply and sanitation throughout the country that have been processed in two parts, one on the problems of cities, the other on problems of rural areas.

"Although you already have in Hanoi a very important project to which Finland has given a lot of assistancee, and in which UNDP has also been involved on the management and training side, other cities also need assistance in improving their water supply and introducing a better sanitation system. And many aid programmes including those by Italy, France and Australia, are coming in to support this programme. UNICEF in the UN family has been very active in promoting safe drinking water in rural areas. UNDP, the World Bank and Habitat—the UN Centre for Human Settlement Development which is very well known to you here - are also continuing our assistance in support of an improving human settlement in the country and including housing conditions, policies and legislative aspects of habitation, with the Hanoi People's Committee, among others.

"Some of you may remenber the recent visit of the secretrary-general of UNESCO, Mr. Federico Mayor, who spoke, among other things, of projects to help the protection and preservation of the old city of Hanoi. I just received yesterday a set of proposals of the secretary-general for follow-up with the people's committee and also with other aid programmes by friendly governments, many of whom I know are very interested in supporting you in this programme to preserve this very beautiful city.

""We have also one project with the people's committee of Hanoi for the disposal and processing of solid wastes. This is in process. We have another project which is still under review and is terribly important and which we must, together with the people's committee and the State Planning Committee of the government, agree on. This is the problem of waste water treatment and the problem of drainage of waste water, a drainage of heavy rain and typhoons in the Hanoi area, Kim Lien is a particularly affected area. We will make sure that this is a project which we will start, but we will need a lot of external support to further it.

"I do not want you to have the idea that the UN System is not concerned with the environmental protection of Hanoi, because we are. We have only done a little so far, we will do much more.

"We have also been talking with the government and hope to develop programmes for increasing pollution control—control of [words indistinct] Ho Chi Minh City too, on environmental control, industrial problems, these should be replicated in other cities such as Hanoi. You also have an increasing traffic problem. We are at the moment conducting a transport sector review for Vietnam. This is not an area where we are going into great detail on traffic questions of cities, but it is one in which the UNDP, the World Bank and others must get involved with you to help provide some of the technical assistamce. But the resources you need for some of these programmes are in.

Provides for Economic Development

BK0706073292 Hanoi VNA in English 0605 GMT 7 Jun 92

[Text] Hanoi VNA June 7—The Ministry of Heavy Industry has inaugurated in Hanoi a foundry and a heat treatment workshop built with financial assistance from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) under project VIE 85/007 which is part of UNDP's Third Country Programme for Vietnam (1987-91).

The two workshops are supplied with modern equipment and machines valued at more than U.S.$600,000. In early May the first products manufactured by two workshops came off the production line.

Under a new country programme for Vietnam in the 1992-96 period adopted by UNDP's Executive Board, UNDP will grant U.S.$92.744 million to Vietnam to help in economic renovation including policy study, development of the law system, renewal of financial and banking services and reform of state enterprises.

Do Muoi Speaks at Kon Tum Party Congress

BK0506144792 Hanoi Vietnam Television Network in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 2 Jun 92

[Report on speech by Communist Party of Vietnam General Secretary Do Muoi at the second-round of the 10th congress of the Kon Tum provincial party organization in "late May"]

[Summary] The 10th second-round party congress of the Kon Tum provincial party organization was organized in late May in the district capital of Kon Tum. Attending the congress were Comrade Do Muoi, general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam [CPV] Central Committee; Comrade Nong Duc Manh, member of the Political Bureau and head of the party Central Committee Nationalities Department; and a number of high-ranking party officials in charge of the various departments and sectors under the management of the party Central Committee.

The congress reviewed past achievements in socioeconomic development, national security and defense, and party-building work, and set forth the orientations and tasks for local socioeconomic development for the 1992-95 period.

The congress elected 25 comrades to the executive committee of the party organization, 10th legislature.

"Addressing the congress, Comrade Secretary General Do Muoi commended the Kon Tum provincial party organization and people of different ethnic groups for their traditions of great solidarity, trust in the party leadership, revolutionary heroism, and great contributions to the struggle for national independence and unification.

"The Central Highlands constitutes a crucial part of our country and plays a strategically important role. Urgent efforts are needed to ensure that the Central Highlands makes steady progress in socioeconomic development, political stability, and national defense and security. Therefore, Kon Tum more particularly has to share an important part of that common task of building and developing the Central Highlands into a strategically important area.

"Comrade General Secretary stressed the need for the Kon Tum provincial party organization to make local party cadres and members, military personnel, and compatriots of different ethnic groups fully aware of this important task. Constant efforts must be made to strengthen solidarity, firmly maintain political stability, accelerate socioeconomic development, and guarantee national security and defense.

"The comrade stressed: It is essential to make full use of all local strengths. As an immediate objective, Kon Tum must accelerate the drive to allot land and forest land to the farmers' families. At the same time, it is necessary to promptly adopt policies and measures to increase the work force in order to guarantee sufficient manpower to exploit land. Besides the need to correctly define its economic structure, Kon Tum must work out plans to develop industry and handicrafts, first of all, the processing industry.

"The comrade general secretary also raised a number of problems concerning the orientations and tasks related to socioeconomic development and national defense and security for 1992 and subsequent years. He pointed out: For a very long time now, many ethnic minority compatriots have settled down in the Central Highlands, including Kon Tum. Due to economic development needs, a fairly large number of lowlander compatriots have also resettled there. Therefore, it is very important to correctly resolve the conflicts of interests between highlanders and lowlanders.

"So far, thanks to the tradition of great solidarity that Uncle Ho made painstaking efforts to develop, the bloc of solidarity among people of different ethnic groups in the Central Highlands, including Kon Tum, has continued to be consolidated and strengthened, thus creating a firm basis for securing political stability in the region.

"However, we should make sustained efforts in this area. Primary importance must be attached to the handling of socioeconomic affairs to ensure that people in the Central Highlands, including ethnic minority compatriots, are the real masters of local land and forest land. Steps must be taken to ensure equality among people of different ethnic groups. These factors form the basis for building and consolidating the bloc of solidarity among people of different ethnic groups in the Central Highlands.

"So far, besides strong points, there still exist some phenomenon which could be cause for concern. For example, lowlander and highlander compatriots still differ in the quality of economic and cultural activities. Different ethnic groups have different customs and habits. Therefore, we should handle those differences in a sophisticated and correct manner. Regarding the handling of conflicts of interests among people of different ethnic groups, a number of shortcomings, even mistakes of a considerably serious nature, have been committed, thus violating the interests of ethnic minority compatriots. All sectors, echelons, and units must conduct serious criticism and must take positive steps to rectify those shortcomings.

"As well as the whole of the Central Highlands, Kon Tum should, along with economic development, concentrate efforts on reducing and eventually overcoming poverty, hunger, illiteracy, and superstition among the ethnic minority compatriots while respecting their customs and habits.

"It is necessary to provide close guidance for the task of receiving people coming to build various new economic zones, workers coming to build major projects in certain areas, and members of the Armed Forces coming to bolster the defense of border areas. Utmost efforts must be made to prevent or promptly settle any friction.

"Apart from the issue of nationality, to ensure that solidarity is strengthened among all ethnic minority groups, we must satisfactorily implement Resolution No. 24 of the Political Bureau on the issue of religion by respecting the right to freedom of faith. As specified in our country's new Constitution, we must allow people to profess a religion or not profess any religion. All religions are equal before the law. No one can encroach on the freedom of faith or take advantage of religion to act contrary to the laws and policies of the state.

"Due to national characteristics, proper policies must be defined with the aim of bringing into full play the active role of all patriarchs and village elders, who are highly influential persons among the people of various nationalities in the Central Highlands.

"The Central Highlands constitute a region of strategic importance to national defense and security. Since the complete liberation of the South, hostile forces have incessantly resorted to many tricks to sow division among the various nationalities in the region in an attempt to coax and rally the people to their side for the development of forces. They have continuously and desperately carried out activities to oppose and undermine the revolution.

"Illustrating their patriotic and heroic tradition, the Army and people in the Central Highlands have annihilated or captured alive thousands of infiltrators and frustrated their acts of opposition and sabotage on many occasions.

"Faced with the new situation, the party organization and people of all nationalities in the Central Highlands must always heighten vigilance and build an all-people

national defense system and a strong people's security network to readily nip all of acts of sabotage in the bud. This is to ensure that the land and forests in the Central Highlands resound forever with the epic of undauntedness, and the people in the Central Highlands remain always loyal to the cause of Uncle Ho.

"It is necessary to strengthen solidarity in the party and among all nationalities and combine the task of consolidating national defense and security closely and effectively with economic development. Meanwhile, close coordination must be achieved among the Army, border defense, and central and local public security forces in the region. This is aimed at satisfactorily carrying out socioeconomic tasks; readily and promptly frustrating all schemes and acts of the enemy; firmly maintaining political stability; and vigorously defending the land, forests, border, and air space of the Vietnamese fatherland."

While in Kontum Province to attend its 10th party organization congress, Comrade General Secretary Do Muoi visited Doan Ket village in Kontum City and the 10th Division of the Third Army Corps. He also paid tribute to the revolutionary fighters who had heroically sacrificed their lives at Kontum prison in 1931.

Australia

Trade Sanctions on Serbia, Montenegro Announced

BK0506080092 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 5 Jun 92

[Text] The Australia Trade Commission, AUSTRADE, has closed its office in Belgrade in line with the United Nations ban on trade with Serbia and Montenegro.

The foreign minister, Gareth Evans, said a senior trade commissioner, John Hennebry, will leave Belgrade as soon as possible. Senator Evans said Australian exports to the old Yugoslavia last year were worth $41 million. There was a major fall from the export figure of $131 million in 1989.

Sen. Evans said that in accordance with the UN sanctions, imports from Serbia and Montnegro had been banned. He said banking and transfer of funds to Serbia or Montenegro had also been suspended.

Fiji

New Foreign Minister To Improve Regional Ties

BK0806065892 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Fiji's new Foreign Minister Filipe Bole says if there is going to be a new direction for his country after the recent post-coup election it will be to make more friends. South Pacific correspondent Jemimah Garrett reports from Suva.

[Begin Garrett recording] Mr. Bole says Fiji will continue its post-1987 push to increase relations with Pacific rim countries. The new foreign minister has also (?warned) the two new deputy prime ministers that relations with countries in Southeast and Northeast Asia have allowed Fiji to develop manufacturing industries it never had before. Mr. Bole says Fiji wants to continue to learn from their hard work and commitment to economic development.

Despite Fiji's interest in the Pacific rim, relations with her near neighbors are still a priority. Mr. Bole says his first overseas trip will be to Australia or New Zealand. The foreign minister says [words indistinct] such as the importance of personal links.

On relations with Fiji's island neighbors, Mr. Bole says there has been a perception that Fiji was a regional leader and that that has diminished since the coups and he would certainly bring that back. [end recording]

Rabuka Vows To Abide by Inter-Party Agreement

BK0606080092 Melbourne Radio Australia in English 0500 GMT 6 Jun 92

[Text] Fiji's prime new minister, Major General Sitiveni Rabuka, says he will abide by this week's extraordinary agreement with the Labor Party that saw him clinch the prime ministership.

The agreement commits Gen. Rabuka to review the constitution, scrap a planned value added tax, revoke controversial labor decrees, and review lands tenure for Indian cane farmers. The agreement came as a shock because it was made with one of the main victims of Gen. Rabuka's 1987 coups and cut across much of his party's policy.

In an interview with Radio Australia's Jemimah Garrett, the new prime minister said he had given his word and would be bound by it. He said he did not expect trouble with labor decrees or the land leases.

On the constitution, Gen. Rabuka said he would establish a parliamentary committee of review.

New Zealand

Defense Minister Wants ANZUS Treaty Restored

BK0806031892 Hong Kong AFP in English 0238 GMT 8 Jun 92

[Text] Wellington, June 8 (AFP)—New Zealand was working towards restoring its military ties with Australia and the U.S. cut by a previous government's anti-nuclear policies, Defence Minister Warren Cooper said Monday.

He said the government intended to work towards the "fullest possible participation" in the ANZUS Treaty (Australia, New Zealand, United States.)

New Zealand's role in the treaty ended in 1985 when the government of Prime Minister David Lange introduced anti-nuclear laws which the U.S. claimed compromised its policy to "neither confirm nor deny" the presence of nuclear weapons aboard U.S. warships.

The current National Party government promised in the 1990 elections that it would abide by the anti-nuclear laws, but has since signalled its intention to seek a resumed ANZUS role, especially as the U.S. has announced it will remove nuclear weapons for its surface fleet.

Cooper said in a speech that this U.S. initiative had removed the primary reason for resisting ship visits.

"The issue is no longer of nuclear weapons, but of nuclear propulsion," Cooper said.

He said the world had changed considerably since the withdrawal from ANZUS.

"A return to the fold of ANZUS will have a significant impact on the general security and influence of this country as a whole.

"Once again, this country will have access to high-level intelligence, will train with the technology and doctrine that won the Gulf War and, most importantly, be accepted back into the military fraternity with our natural allies," Cooper said.